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CONTENTS

19 September 1991

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Criteria for Recognizing North Korea Outlined *[KYODO]* 1
Oman Expresses Thanks for Minesweepers to Gulf *[KYODO]* 1
Nauru Protests Against Tokyo Stock Brokerages *[KYODO]* 1
Cool Response to Disputed Isles' Residents' Views *[KYODO]* 1
Okinawan Town Demands C-141 Planes' Removal *[RYUKYU SHIMPO 17 Sep]* 2
Okinawa Reacts To Philippines Base Rejection *[OKINAWA TIMES 17 Sep]* 2
Moves To Assist Japan Economic Zone Creation *[KYODO]* 3
Nuclear Power Training To Be Given Bulgarians *[KYODO]* 3
Gas Association To Investigate Soviet Oil Fields *[KYODO]* 3
Precision Instrument Joint Venture With PRC *[KYODO]* 3
LDP Approves UN Peacekeeping Legislation *[Beijing XINHUA]* 3
SDP Signals Agreement on Peacekeeping Bill *[KYODO]* 4
Poll Shows 44 Percent Support Kaifu Second Term *[KYODO]* 4
Proposed New Presidential Term Applies to Kaifu *[KYODO]* 5
MITI To Stockpile Gas To Ensure Supply *[KYODO]* 5
Reservations Over Raising Securities Fine *[KYODO]* 5
Punishment of Aerospace Company Worrisome *[KYODO]* 6
Securities Law Goes to Lower House *[KYODO]* 6
Optimism About Economy Despite Mild Downturn *[KYODO]* 6

North Korea

Delegate Addresses UN After Admission *[KCNA]* 7
Officials Comment on Admission to United Nations *[KCNA]* 7
Arguments for U.S. Nuclear Umbrella Denounced *[Pyongyang Radio]* 8
Daily Says U.S. Must Remove Nuclear Threat *[KCNA]* 9
Weekly U.S.-South Military Exercises Reported 9
    14, 15, 16 Sep Actions *[KCNA]* 9
    16, 17 Sep Exercises *[KCNA]* 10
'Ideological Offensive' Aimed at Young People *[KCNA]* 10
Vice Premier Meets Japanese NHK Group *[KCNA]* 11
PRC Leaders Attend Banquet at DPRK Embassy *[Pyongyang Radio]* 11
IRNA Delegation Arrives in Pyongyang 17 Sep *[KCNA]* 11
North-South Student Contacts Held at Panmunjom *[KCNA]* 12
Reportage on Activities of Chondaehyop Delegation 12
    Attends Student Meeting *[KCNA]* 12
    Tours Chuche Tower *[Pyongyang Radio]* 13
    Meets Former ROK Politician *[KCNA]* 14
    Visits Studio, Plant *[Pyongyang Radio]* 14
Police Shooting of Student in South Reported *[KCNA]* 15
Commentary Denouces South 'Privileged Clan' *[KCNA]* 15
Daily Calls South Government 'Teargas Regime' *[KCNA]* 15
'Suppression' of Students in South Condemned *[KCNA]* 16
Death of Central Committee Alternate Member Noted *[Pyongyang Radio]* 16
Paper Praises Kim Il-song Work on Socialism *[Pyongyang Radio]* 16
Daily Discusses Importance of 'Slogans of Faith' *[KCNA]* 18
Paper Stresses Revolutionary Role of Intellectuals *[KCNA]* 19
Rice Harvest Expected To Increase *[KCNA]* 20

KCNA Reviews 18 Sep Pyongyang Press 20
KCNA Reviews 19 Sep Pyongyang Press 21

South Korea

New UN Assembly Head Pledges Support for Seoul *[YONHAP]* 22
Army To Begin Guarding B Area at Panmunjom *[Seoul Radio]* 22
Financial Assistance to U.S. Troops Debated *[THE KOREA HERALD 19 Sep]* 22
SOFA Agreement Discussed at National Assembly *[YONHAP]* 23
Official: U.S. Embassy Facilities Should Move *[YONHAP]* 23
* ROK-U.S. Wisemen's Association Formed *[CHUGAN CHOSON 21 Jul]* 24
Kim Tae-chung Defends Role of U.S. Forces *[YONHAP]* 25
Soviet Presidential Adviser Renews Aid Request *[YONHAP]* 26
    Further Aid Talks Scheduled *[YONHAP]* 26
USSR Offers Okhotsk Fishing Rights to Seoul *[YONHAP]* 26
Foreign Minister Meets Ukrainian Counterpart *[YONHAP]* 26
Seoul Considers Improved Relations With SRV *[YONHAP]* 27
Kim Yong-sam Meets Japanese Prime Minister *[YONHAP]* 27
Japan's UN Peacekeeping Operations Discussed *[YONHAP]* 27
South May Appeal North's Nuclear Accord Refusal *[TONG-A ILBO 14 Sep]* 27
Firm To Engage in Barter Trade With North *[YONHAP]* 28
Student Leaders Detained on Way to Panmunjom *[THE KOREA HERALD 19 Sep]* 28
* Editorial on Chondaehyop's Recent Activities *[TONG-A ILBO 29 Jun]* 28
Opposition Demands Punishment in Student's Death *[THE KOREA HERALD 19 Sep]* 29
    Autopsy Scheduled *[YONHAP]* 30
Frequency of Firearms Use by Police Reported *[THE KOREA HERALD 19 Sep]* 30
Ministry Plans Changes in Development Agency *[THE KOREA TIMES 19 Sep]* 30
No Presides Over Economic Planning Meeting *[YONHAP]* 31
State-Run Firm Accused of Environmental Damage *[THE KOREA TIMES 19 Sep]* 32
Promotions in Trade Body, Naval Staff Reported *[YONHAP]* 32

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

Council Appoints Ohn Gyaw Foreign Minister *[Rangoon TV]* 33
Commander Threatens To Wipe Out Capitalists *[Rangoon Radio]* 33

Brunei, Malaysia, & Singapore

Malaysia

Minister Offers Burma Assistance *[BERNAMA]* 33
Mahathir on North America Free Trade Area *[BERNAMA]* 34
Director Recommends Flights to South Africa *[Johannesburg Radio]* 34
Investment Mission To Leave for East Asia *[Singapore Radio]* 34

Cambodia

Phnom Penh Reports on SNC Delegation at UN *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 34
Sihanouk Reaffirms Stance as 'Neutral Leader' *[SPK]* 35
Spokesman Denies Army Recruiting Children *[AFP]* 35
Article Views Prospects for Post-War Development *[AFP]* 35
SNC Delegation Attends Group 77 in Pyongyang *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 36
Party Committee Receives SRV Guests *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 36
Donors Pledge Millions for Refugee Repatriation *[SPK]* 37
Leaders Receive Thanks From SRV Counterparts *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 37
    Message to Chea Sim *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 37
    Hor Namhong Receives Message *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 38
U.S. Lawyers Meet Army Court President *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 38
Chea Sim Visits Flood Victims in Prey Veng *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 38

Indonesia

- Sudanese President Arrives on State Visit *[ANTARA]* 38
  - Addresses Banquet *[ANTARA]* 39
  - Holds Talks With Suharto *[Jakarta Radio]* 39
- Commentary on East Timor Portuguese Visit *[Jakarta Radio]* 40
- Vietnamese Fishermen Deported After Prison Term *[ANTARA]* 40

Laos

- Meeting Elects Party Control Board *[Vientiane Radio]* 40
- Maisouk Saisompheng Pays Visit to SRV *[Vientiane Radio]* 40
- Maichantan Sengmani Chairs Work Conference *[Vientiane Radio]* 41
- Romania Sends Kaysone, Khamtai Messages *[Vientiane Radio]* 41
- Phoun Receives Bulgarian Charge d'Affaires *[KPL]* 41
- Radio Interview on Bridge Construction *[KPL]* 41

Philippines

- More Ramifications of Treaty Rejection Reported 42
  - Pro-Bases Senators Go to U.S. *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 19 Sep]* 42
  - Manglapus Talks on Bases Issue *[Quezon City Radio-TV]* 43
  - Manglapus on Call for Resignation *[MALAYA 19 Sep]* 50
  - Aquino Asked To Explain Recall *[Manila Radio]* 50
  - Paredes Views Impeachment Issue *[Manila Radio]* 50
  - U.S. Withdrawal in 6 Months Urged *[Quezon City Radio]* 51
  - Congressmen: No New Taxes Needed *[PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY 19 Sep]* 51
  - Cabinet Secretaries on Referendum *[Manila Radio]* 51
  - Rama Suggests People's Initiative *[MALAYA 19 Sep]* 51
  - Possible Constitutional Crisis Viewed *[Manila Radio]* 52
  - Continued U.S. Base Rent Urged *[Manila Radio]* 52
  - Con-Com Members Against Referendum *[MALAYA 19 Sep]* 52
  - Aquino Reconsiders Referendum *[AFP]* 53
  - Aquino's Referendum Call Clarified *[Quezon City Radio]* 53
  - Poll Body on Referendum Timing *[Manila Radio]* 54
  - Senators Predict U.S. Interference *[Manila Radio]* 54
  - Aquino Denies Pressure From U.S. *[Quezon City Radio]* 54
  - Aquino Impeachment Attempt Viewed *[AFP]* 55
  - Bank Privatization Plan Deferred *[AFP]* 56
  - U.S. Bases Seen as Election Issue *[MANILA BULLETIN 18 Sep]* 56
  - Conflict Clouds Investment Climate *[THE CHRONICLE 19 Sep]* 56
- U.S. Offers 'Lethal Weapons' to Armed Forces *[BUSINESS WORLD 18 Sep]* 57
- Government Urged To Buy Weaponry From PRC *[MALAYA 19 Sep]* 57
- Abadia, Honasan Said To Meet in Camp Aguinaldo *[Manila Radio]* 58
- Police Officials Release 20 'Rightist' Detainees *[PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY 17 Sep]* 58
- Three Rebel Officers Said Ready To Surrender *[Manila Radio]* 58
- Rebel Soldier Emissaries Report Back to Abadia *[Manila Radio]* 59
- Police Capture 3 'High-Ranking' NPA Officials *[Quezon City Radio]* 59
- Sison Wishes To Mediate Proposed Peace Talks *[Quezon City Radio]* 59
  - Police To Arrest Sison on Arrival *[Manila Radio]* 59
  - Official Rejects Sison as Mediator *[Quezon City Radio]* 59
  - Aquino Rejects Sison Offer *[Quezon City Radio]* 60
- Marag Valley Area Said Under Military Control *[Manila Radio]* 60
- Government Wants 'Concrete Signals' From Rebels *[AFP]* 60
- NPA in Bicol Reportedly Resorting to Robbery *[MANILA BULLETIN 18 Sep]* 61
- Communist Rebels Violate Cease-Fire in Quezon *[Manila Radio]* 61
- Government, NDF Start Talks 'Outside' Country *[Manila Radio]* 61
- Rebel Bombs Said Discovered in Quezon Barangay *[Manila Radio]* 62
- Fernan Considers Parties for Presidential Bid *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 19 Sep]* 62
- Comelec Suspends Poll Preparations, Awaits Laws *[MANILA BULLETIN 18 Sep]* 62
- Senator Tanada Formally Joins Liberal Party *[Quezon City Radio]* 63

Thailand

Suchinda Says SRV Potential Security Threat *[BANGKOK POST 19 Sep]* 63
Khukrit Criticizes Chawalit's Actions *[SIAM RAT 17 Sep]* 63
Military Said Dissatisfied With Government *[THE NATION 19 Sep]* 64
Army Chief Denies Comments on Premiership *[Bangkok Radio]* 65
Burmese Students Protest at Embassy in Bangkok *[BANGKOK POST 19 Sep]* 65
Indonesia Responds Positively to Asian Trade *[THE NATION 17 Sep]* 65
Japan Grants Aid for Green Belt in Northeast *[Bangkok Radio]* 66

Vietnam

Reportage Covers Thai, SRV Meetings in Hanoi 66
  Ministers Hold News Conference *[Hanoi Radio]* 66
  Joint Communique Issued *[VNA]* 68
  Asa Claims 'Total Success' *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 19 Sep]* 69
  Fishermen To Be Released *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 19 Sep]* 70
  Premier Cool to Gas Proposal *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 19 Sep]* 70
National Assembly Group Arrives in Phnom Penh *[Hanoi Radio]* 71
Lao Front Delegation Arrives for Visit *[VNA]* 71
More Contracts With Foreign Airlines Signed *[Hanoi International]* 72
Army General on Military Doctrine *[TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN Jul-Aug]* 72

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

Hawke Asks UN To Intervene in Yugoslavia *[AFP]* 75
Hong Kong Said Largest Source of Immigrants *[AFP]* 75

Vanuatu

New Premier Wants Ties With France Normalized *[AFP]* 75

Japan

Criteria for Recognizing North Korea Outlined

OW1809035191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0342 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 18 KYODO—Japan outlined three criteria for recognizing North Korea Wednesday, led by Pyongyang's acceptance of international inspection of its nuclear facilities.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto said the other two criteria are progress in bilateral negotiations on establishing diplomatic ties, and advances in dialogue with South Korea.

While welcoming North Korea's admission to the United Nations Tuesday, Sakamoto said the move will not have direct influence on Japan's decision to recognize the country diplomatically, Sakamoto told a regularly scheduled news conference.

"Politically speaking, Japan will be expected to promote friendship following the unanimous recognition of (North Korea's) admission to the United Nations," Sakamoto added.

Since the division of the Korean peninsula following World War II, Japan has never recognized North Korea. The two countries entered talks in January on establishing diplomatic relations.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, speaking to reporters at his official residence, said he expects the simultaneous entry to the U.N. by the two Koreas to encourage dialogue.

Oman Expresses Thanks for Minesweepers to Gulf

OW1809052991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0506 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 18 KYODO—Oman thanked Japan on Wednesday for dispatching minesweepers to help remove Iraqi mines from the Persian Gulf, and urged Japan to keep up its interest in the security of the region, a Japanese Foreign Ministry official said.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and Omar Abdul Munim al-Zawawi, a special adviser to Omani Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id, agreed to jointly explore ways to promote security in the Gulf, the official said.

Al-Zawawi told Kaifu that, following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait last year, Oman and other members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) are making efforts to enhance security by promoting cooperation with Egypt and Syria.

The GCC countries are also boosting security ties with the United States, the official quoted al-Zawawi as saying.

Al-Zawawi, in Japan at the invitation of the Liberal Democratic Party's strongman Shin Kanemaru, also said Oman is trying to negotiate better relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia, and between Iran and Egypt.

The Riyadh-based GCC consists of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates.

Nauru Protests Against Tokyo Stock Brokerages

OW1809135391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1347 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 18 KYODO—The pacific island nation of Nauru has lodged a diplomatic protest with the Japanese Government against Tokyo stockbroking companies which compensated select local clients for stock investment losses, informed sources said Wednesday.

The protest came through a diplomatic channel in which Nauru said it was "unfair" it had suffered substantial losses on stock investments in Japan, while Japanese securities houses only reimbursed their local clients.

The sources said the Japanese Government has advised securities firms through the finance ministry topook into the issue and explain the matter to Nauru officials.

One government source said, "we cannot allow compensations, and hence, we cannot respond to requests asking for them."

Nauru is a small island located about 40 kilometers south of the equator, with a population of about 9,000 people. The country is known for producing phosphate, which the sources say, is about the only export item.

Nauru had set up a fund from export gains, and the operation of the fund has been an important financial source, they said.

Nauru had invested several billions of yen in the Japanese securities market, but suffered heavy losses as securities prices plunged, the sources said.

Cool Response to Disputed Isles' Residents' Views

OW1809094391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0850 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 18 KYODO—Japan's top government spokesman Misoji Sakamoto responded coolly Wednesday to an appeal by residents of four Soviet-held islands to consider their views, saying it is more important that the territories are recognized as part of Japan.

Asked whether Japan attaches importance to the opposition of some 25,000 Soviet citizens living on the disputed territory, Sakamoto replied that "the islanders have their opinions, but it is more important to ascertain that the islands belong to Japan."

Island officials made an appeal earlier this week to Tokyo and Moscow to the islanders' rights and interests in sorting out the dispute.

The message, addressed to the Russian Government and the people of Japan, said the disputed territories are an "integral part of russia," according to a TASS news agency report.

The islands have been under jurdiction of the Russian Federation since the Soviet military seized Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan, and the Habomai group, located off Hokkaido, at the end of World War II.

Sakamoto said Japan has not yet determined whether the dispute should be worked out with the Soviet Union or the Russian Government.

Ruslan Khasbulatov, the Russian parliament's acting president, said on his return from Tokyo last week that the territorial issue should be worked out in the framework of Russo-Japanese relations, according to TASS news agency.

"At the start we had the feeling that there was a sort of misunderstanding on that point in official Japanese circles," TASS quoted him as saying.

"But it seems that we have been able to make ourselves understood on that point," Khasbulatov reportedly said.

Okinawan Town Demands C-141 Planes' Removal

OW1809060091 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese 17 Sep 91 Evening Edition p 9

[Text] Chatan—The Chatan Town Assembly (speaker: Seiei Sakihama) opened its regular monthly session for September at 1000 on 17 September and unanimously adopted "a resolution and statement of opinion opposing the redeployment of large C-141 transport planes to Kadena Air Base in the wake of the closure of Clark Air Base and calling for their immediate removal." This is the third resolution of its kind and follows those adopted by Okinawa City and the town of Kadena.

It has been made clear that C-141 transport planes and military personnel have been redeployed to Kadena Air Base from Clark U.S. Air Force Base, which was closed because of the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo in the Philippines.

The resolution and the statement of opinion reads in part: "The redeployment of U.S. military aircraft is causing great anxiety among the people of the town. It runs counter to a living environment in which the people can live peacefully, free of anxiety, and without listening to the drone of engines. It is an act that gives priority to the military, which tramples underfoot even the minimum rights guaranteed to the people by the Japanese Constitution. We absolutely cannot tolerate it."

It goes on to say: "The redeployment of any military aircraft, even if it is a temporary step, causes new anxiety to the townspeople and we absolutely cannot tolerate it." It concludes: "We oppose the redeployment of large C-141 transport planes and demand their immediate removal."

Okinawa Reacts To Philippines Base Rejection

OW1809224191 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 17 Sep 91 Evening Edition p 7

[Text] On 16 September, the Philippine Senate voted down the U.S.-Philippines friendship and cooperation treaty on extending the U.S. Navy's use of Subic Bay Naval Station. This is making waves in Okinawa. Reformist and conservative mayors from towns near Kadena Air Base are voicing their vigilant feelings, saying that "any relocation of U.S. military units from the Philippines to Okinawa cannot be permitted." Meanwhile, democratic groups also are stressing: "The world is moving toward disarmament. U.S. forces in the Philippines will be withdrawn someday. We will fight any attempt to consolidate U.S. military bases on Okinawa."

Comment by Tokujitsu Miyagi, Mayor of Kadena Town

Even if there is difference between the will of the Philippine people and government on one hand and the parliament on the other, parliamentary decisions should not be treated lightly. In Okinawa, town assemblies, the prefectural assembly, and all Okinawans have already expressed their objection to moving Clark Air Base's operations to Okinawa. Okinawans would benefit from any such relocation. We will not permit the United States to forcibly move these operations to Okinawa against the will of Okinawans. We will closely monitor future moves and deal with them quickly.

Comment by Tokushin Yamaguchi, Mayor of Yomitan Town

The chaotic situation and the anti-military base campaign in the Philippines are highly likely to affect Okinawa and Yokosuka. All people on Okinawa should express their feeling as soon as possible that they will absolutely not permit any attempt to relocate U.S. army and navy now in the Philippines to Okinawa. We cannot aceept any U.S. move to relocate some units stationed in the Philippines to Okinawa. We have to deal with this question promptly.

Comment by Kenji Hanashiro, Secretary General of the Okinawa Prefectural Council Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs

The closing of Subic Bay will affect Okinawa directly. U.S. planes have already flown to Kadena Air Base from air bases in the Philippines. Even if a national referendum were to be held, U.S. forces would pull out of the Philippines soon. We will tenaciously fight any consolidation of U.S. military bases on Okinawa.

Moves To Assist Japan Economic Zone Creation

OW1809100791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0942 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 18 KYODO—Japan will assist moves toward formation of a Sea of Japan economic zone by helping improve infrastructure in the region, including the Soviet Far East and northeastern Japan, government sources said Wednesday.

The sources said the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) will cooperate to upgrade transport facilities in the Soviet Far East, including Khabarovsk's airport and Vanino's port.

A special MITI mission will visit the region to study facilities next month before the ministry works out details of planned assistance, scheduled to start in the next fiscal year.

The MITI-affiliated Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) also plans a separate mission to Khabarovsk next year to study the area's economic environment.

The sources said the MITI project also involves a large-scale examination into the trade and investment environment in the three northeastern provinces of China—Liaoning, Jilin, and Heilongjiang.

Necessary information will be collected through a planned JETRO branch in Dalian, its third base in China following those in Beijing and Shanghai, they said.

Nuclear Power Training To Be Given Bulgarians

OW1809115291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1134 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 18 KYODO—The Federation of Electric Power Companies announced Wednesday it will accept three trainees from Bulgaria to learn about generating nuclear energy.

The trainees from the Kozlodui Electric Power Plant in northern Bulgaria will arrive in Japan in mid-October and will tour Tokyo Electric Power Co. and Kansai Electric Power Co. In addition to the actual training.

The program was arranged by the World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO).

Kozlodui has been warned by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) about its safety controls because of an accident at the plant in October 1990.

The Kozlodui plant consists of six facilities with a total generating capacity of 3.76 million kilowatts.

Gas Association To Investigate Soviet Oil Fields

OW1809033591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0228 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 18 KYODO—The Japan LP-Gas Association will send a study team to the Soviet Union early in October to probe a possibility of producing liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) for imports to Japan, association officials said Wednesday.

The study team is one of the missions the association has sent to other countries' possible gas fields, aiming at diversifying sources to procure LPG and lowering Japan's dependency on the Middle East, the officials said.

"This is not a business, only for investigating purposes... not a feasibility study, either. It is at a far earlier stage than that," an official of the association said.

Thirteen senior executives from LPG wholesalers will visit October 6-20 the Tyumen gas region in western Siberia which has the largest natural gas field in the Soviet Union, the officials said.

The mission will investigate in detail the technology for collecting gas and conditions there to examine the possibility of a joint development, they said.

Precision Instrument Joint Venture With PRC

OW1809034691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0335 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 18 KYODO—Houjo Physico-Chemical (P/C) Research Institute will set up a joint venture in China with two Chinese companies October 1 to produce precision instrument parts, company officials said Wednesday.

The new company, Weihai Teng Da Precision Mechanical Parts Co., will be capitalized at 300,000 dollars, 45 percent of which will be put up by Houjo and the remainder by the Chinese partners, Qingdao-based Shandong Light Industrial Products Import and Export Corp. and Weihai-based Weihai Measuring Tools Factory, the officials said.

The joint venture, located at the site of Weihai Measuring Tools, will be officially inaugurated October 1 and start next January production of mechanical parts for electronic equipment. The plant will have 25 workers, they said.

Starting from the production of parts worth about 120,000 dollars a year, the new company will gradually expand production volume with doubled capital in the third year, they said.

The designing and manufacturing company of energy-saving equipment, headquartered in Himeji, western Japan, has provided Weihai Measuring Tools with technical training for two years, they said.

LDP Approves UN Peacekeeping Legislation

OW1809074891 Beijing XINHUA in English 0642 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 18 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) on Wednesday approved a bill that would allow light armored Japanese Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel to participate in united nations peacekeeping operations.

If the bill gains Diet approval, it would lead to the first deployment abroad of Japanese military forces since the end of World War II.

During a special session, the party's decision-making executive council also endorsed separate but related legislation that would allow SDF personnel to engage in overseas disaster relief efforts.

The bills would limit participation to 2,000 personnel in order to minimize Japan's exposure to overseas conflicts, and would bar unarmed Japanese civilians from joining in peacekeeping forces or ceasefire operations.

LDP officials said Kaifu's government will introduce the two bills to the Diet on Thursday.

The legislation represents Japan's belated attempt to play a limited political and military role in maintaining peace in the world's trouble spots following the Persian Gulf war.

During that war, the United States led an anti-Iraq coalition and some American Government officials and legislators sharply criticized Japan for failing to supply sufficient contributions commensurate with its economic power.

At the special executive council meeting, a former Chief Cabinet Secretary, Masaharu Gotoda, suggested that the Kaifu cabinet should fully explain the role of Japanese SDF personnel in peacekeeping and disaster relief operations to the Japanese public and Japan's Asian neighbors.

Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Tadamori Oshima told the meeting that Kaifu's chief spokesman Misoji Sakamoto will detail the bills at the time of their legislative introduction.

SDF personnel will be armed in accordance with guidance from the U.N. secretary general, but as head of Japan's international peace cooperation program, the Japanese prime minister can draw up sutplementary guidelines.

A key author of the bills said at another LDP meeting that Japanese SDF staff can use firearms to protect foreign military personnel engaged in the same U.N. peacekeeping campaign.

At the height of the Gulf crisis last year, the Kaifu cabinet mapped out a U.N. peace cooperation bill designed to send SDF and maritime safety agency troops, ships, and aircraft to help assist multinational forces in the Gulf region.

But the bill ran into strong resistance from the opposition camp and was killed in the House of Representatives in November.

At that time, the LDP and two centrist opposition parties, Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party agreed to prepare an alternative bill.

It is still unclear whether the main opposition Social Democratic Party would support the new peacekeeping operations bill.

The SDP did not take part in discussions among the LDP, Komeito, and DSP in the meantime.

SDP Signals Agreement on Peacekeeping Bill

OW1809195791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1439 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 18 KYODO—The Social Democratic Party (SDP) indicated Wednesday it would agree to the use of Japan's Self-Defense Forces (SDF) in international peace cooperation corps and disaster relief efforts.

Meeting on the eve of the government's expected approval of a draft peacekeeping operations bill, members of the leading opposition party's international peace cooperation project concluded their own "basic thinking on international cooperation."

In the plan, the SDP acknowledged for the first time that SDF personnel, under a nonmilitary head, could take part in medical, hygienic, transportation, and communications activities of international relief efforts and an international peace cooperation corps.

The plan, however, differed widely from the planned government bill by excluding the Japanese corps from participation in peacekeeping forces or cease-fire observation teams.

According to the SDP plan, the peacekeeping corps would be limited to about 1,000—half the number proposed in the government bill—for nonmilitary, humanitarian relief activities such as disaster relief, refugee emergencies, and environmental preservation.

The plan recognizes the participation of retired or temporarily retired SDF personnel in such operations, but not personnel on leave from the SDF. It did not, however, exclude the possibility the SDF retirees could return to the SDF.

Poll Shows 44 Percent Support Kaifu Second Term

OW1809010091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0036 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 18 KYODO—Forty-four percent of pollees support Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu continuing power after his two-year term expires as president of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) in October, according to an opinion poll released by the ASAHI SHIMBUN on Wednesday.

The survey said 42 percent thought Kaifu should step down in October.

The poll was conducted through interviews with a sample of 3,000 eligible voters across the country on September 15 and 16. The response rate was 75 percent.

In a previous poll conducted in June by the ASAHI SHIMBUN, 35 percent supported Kaifu remaining in power, while 49 percent said Kaifu should step down.

The presidency of the governing party automatically carries the post of prime minister because the LDP holds a majority in the powerful House of Representatives.

Those who insisted Kaifu should step down were asked who, among the LDP dietmembers, should replace Kaifu. Former Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa topped the list with 10 percent, followed by Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto with 3 percent, former Finance Minister Michio Watanabe with 3 percent, former Transport Minister Shintaro Ishihara with 3 percent, and former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita with 1 percent.

The support rate for the Kaifu cabinet was 50 percent, the same as the previous survey, and the disapproval rate decreased to 28 percent from 32 percent in June.

Of those supporting the Kaifu cabinet, 17 percent, up from 12 percent in June, said they did so because they favored Kaifu himself.

Asked whether Kaifu has restored public trust in politics damaged by the recruit bribery scandal two years ago, 13 percent said yes and 74 said no.

The LDP's support rate was 63 percent, down 1 percentage point from three months ago, it said.

The support rate for the top opposition social democratic party increased slightly from 17 percent in the previous poll to 18 percent.

Other opposition parties' support rates were 4 percent for Komeito, 3 percent for the Japanese Communist Party, 2 percent for the Democratic Socialist Party, and 1 percent for the United Social Democratic Party.

Proposed New Presidential Term Applies to Kaifu

OW1809141291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1404 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Fukuoka, Sept. 18 KYODO—Ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Secretary General Keizo Obuchi said Wednesday the proposed extension of party presidential terms from two to three years would apply to Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu if he is reelected.

Obuchi said at a press conference here it would be possible if proposed presidential rules are adopted, despite saying that, in principle, future LDP presidents should serve only one three-year term.

He said if the rules are adopted they will apply to everybody, including Kaifu.

Kaifu was elected LDP president in October 1989 after assuming the post and the premiership in August 1989. He aims to seek another term in an election scheduled for late next month when his current two-year term expires.

Meanwhile, senior LDP leader Hiroshi Mitsuzuka told a press conference in Osaka he agrees with the proposed term extension.

However, Mitsuzuka, who leads the second-largest LDP faction, said an LDP president should be allowed to be reelected after serving a three-year term.

MITI To Stockpile Gas To Ensure Supply

OW1809122591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1156 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 18 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) plans to build national liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) stockpiles to supplement private stockpiles and secure stable LPG supplies, starting in fiscal 1993, MITI officials said Wednesday.

The measure is intended to thwart any supply crunch as seen during the Persian Gulf war, the officials said.

Currently, private LPG stockpiles are equivalent to a 50-day import supply, and the size of government stockpiles is expected to match that.

Japan consumed 18.7 million metric tons of LPG last year, of which 76 percent was imported.

Lpg is used by over 23 million households in Japan for cooking and heating, as well as by the petrochemicals and petroleum refining industries, electric utilities, and most of the nation's taxis, but it accounts for only 5 percent of the nation's primary energy sources.

The Gulf war cut LPG imports from Kuwait and caused loading problems at Saudi Arabian ports, forcing MITI to instruct industrial users to cut back on consumption so as to save LPG for household use.

Reservations Over Raising Securities Fine

OW1809100991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0945 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 18 KYODO—The chairman of the Japan Securities Dealers Association expressed reservations Wednesday about early and complete liberalization of brokerage commissions.

Speaking at a regular press conference, Shogo Watanabe said the ad hoc commission on administrative reform had indicated the liberalization be carried out taking into account its effects on the capital market and small-lot investors.

Watanabe said his association's background as a securities industry organization will not hinder it from policing itself, a function it can strengthen while maintaining the current system.

The association is considering raising the maximum fine it imposes on members who violate its regulations from 5 million yen to around 100 million yen, he said.

Watanabe's remark came after the Tokyo Stock Exchange decided on Tuesday to raise the fine by the same amount.

Officials of the two organizations say the raise was decided following criticism that fines for violations were too low, taking into account what brokerage houses make in pretax profits.

Watanabe, however, said it was necessary to review the current penalty system, under which member companies are fined by both organizations.

Association officials said the same day that the board of directors agreed on specific measures to prevent recurrence of the current stock scandal.

The board decided to hold inspection of members' dealings more frequently, and increase the number of inspectors. There are 11 full-time and 80 part-time inspectors at present.

The inspectors will start checking the sales methods of brokerage houses, instead of just focusing, as up to now, on whether regulations are being obeyed, the officials said.

Punishment of Aerospace Company Worrisome

OW1809093391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0847 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 18 KYODO—The Defense Agency is in a dilemma over how to punish a major aerospace equipment supplier charged with illegal export of missile components to Iran without affecting national security, agency officials said wedneeday.

Japan Aviation Electronics Industry (JAE), based in Tokyo, and its four top executives were indicted last week on charges of illegally exporting air-to-air missile parts to Iran during the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq War.

The officials said stern action against the company such as suspension of transactions could undermine Japan's national security.

JAE is the agency's major supplier of aerospace equipment. It is known to be the only maker in the world of a navigation control system using laser beams.

The system is mounted on the air self-defense force's mainstay fighter F4-EJ and other aircraft. An improved version of the system has been selected for Japan's next-generation support fighter, codenamed the FSX, which is under joint development with the United States.

The Ministry of International Trade and Industry, which oversees the nation's foreign trade, is considering meting out severe punishment against JAE, including a ban on exports by the company, ministry sources said.

The ministry has refrained from signing new contracts with JAE since the illegal export case was disclosed in July.

Since the case involves JAE's U.S. partner, the government has agreed all ministries and agencies will coordinate their actions to deal with the matter.

The Defense Agency hopes to find ways to save the company from suffering heavy damage to its business, the agency officials said.

Securities Law Goes to Lower House

OW1809052191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0447 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 18 KYODO—The government submitted a bill aimed at preventing a recurrence of the recent scandal involving brokerage companies to the House of Representatives on Wednesday.

The bill, which would revise the Securities and Exchange Law, is expected to be discussed Thursday by a special lower house committee which is examining problems concerning securities companies and the financial sector generally.

The action follows revelations that brokerages compensated major clients for investment losses and that some of the brokerages allegedly manipulated stock prices and had dealings with members of criminal organizations.

The bill would prohibit brokerages from paying compensation to clients for trading losses and from managing discretionary accounts that give sole investment decisions to brokerages.

Clients who ask for loss compensation would be liable to up to six months in prison or a fine of up to 500,000 yen, while brokers who agree to pay compensation would face up to a year in prison or a fine of up to 1 million yen.

Optimism About Economy Despite Mild Downturn

OW1809033491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0235 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 18 KYODO—Chiefs of the Ministry of Finance's [MOF] regional financial bureaus reported Wednesday that the Japanese economy remains firm on the whole despite a mild downturn in its growth rate.

The bureau chiefs reported to the ministry on their local business conditions during an MOF bureau chiefs' meeting, which ends Thursday.

Their reports said most manufacturing industries were maintaining high-production levels due to steady domestic demand although output slackened in a few industries such as petrochemical and auto manufacturing, the officials said.

Business conditions in nonmanufacturing industries remained firm, they reported, particularly in service-related industries like the transportation industry.

Many of the bureau chiefs expected capital spending to rise, but they anticipated only modest growth.

Bureau chiefs from Hokkaido and a few other regions expected plant and equipment investment in the current fiscal year, ending in March 31, 1992, to fall below levels in the previous year.

Capital spending in nonmanufacturing industries is also anticipated to drop below last year's levels in a few regions, despite the strong showing expected in other local areas.

Regarding the spotty economic outlook, a MOF official said business conditions will continue to remain steady, despite slackened overall growth.

Consumer spending will remain firm, but purchases of artworks, audio products, and small cars and minivehicles are slowing in some regions, the reports said.

Housing construction has been declining in both owner-occupied houses and rental units.

North Korea

Delegate Addresses UN After Admission

SK1909053791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0501 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang September 19 (KCNA)—The Democratic People's Republic of Korea joined the United Nations on September 17.

A draft resolution on the U.N. membership of the DPRK which was jointly sponsored by 143 countries including India was unanimously adopted without voting at the first plenary meeting of the 46th session of the U.N. General Assembly. It made the DPRK the 160th U.N. member-state.

The chairman of the General Assembly session and the regional groups chairmen spoke in congratulation of the new U.N. member- states including our country.

Deputy head of the DPRK delegation Kang Sok-chu, first vice- minister of foreign affairs, spoke in reply.

The unanimity in adopting the DPRK's admission into the United Nations without voting is a manifestation of the deep concern of the international community about the Korean peninsula and a token of the unanimous desire of the member-states to achieve friendship and harmony among all regions and countries of the world, Kang Sok- chu said, adding:

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, a member-state, will remain faithful to the purpose and principle stipulated in the U.N. Charter, take an active part in the U.N. activities, making a due contribution.

We regard the chuche idea as the guideline of state activities and the socialism we have built is a man-centred socialism in which everything serves only the people, he declared, and continued: Our people are highly proud of building the socialism of our own style by themselves and are firmly determined to continue along this road invariably.

We deem it an expression of respect for this option of our people that the U.N. member-states unanimously approved and supported our country's admission into the U.N.

The question of Korea's reunification is a matter of rejoining the artificially severed blood vessel of the nation and achieving national concord, he said, and stressed: We are convinced that the day is sure to come when the North and the South would take a single seat in the U.N. thanks to the united efforts of our people and the cooperation of the member-states, although the two sides share separate seats today.

Expressing the belief that the DPRK's U.N. membership will open a prospect favourable for a new start in the relations between the DPRK and the U.N., he hoped in conclusion that steps would be taken in keeping with the removal of the past abnormal relations.

The DPRK flag was hoist at a flag pole in front of the headquarters of the U.N. Tuesday.

Officials Comment on Admission to United Nations

SK1909105991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1020 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang September 19 (KCNA)—The admission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations has evoked widespread repercussions upon our people.

Yi Chol-sin, vice-chairman of the Korean Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, said the full support and approval of the DPRK's admission to the United Nations by the member nations is a manifestation of their respect for the sovereignty and dignity of our republic. He continued:

Our country's decision to enter the U.N. clearly showed that our Republic's consistent foreign policy idea of independence, peace and friendship correctly reflects the trend of the present times and it is of universal significance in developing international relations.

Kim Ki-pong, deputy president of University of International Affairs, had this to say:

When the splittists had gone to the extremes in their scheme to perpetuate and legalise the division of the country and the nation through separate entry into the U.N. it was judicious for our Republic to have decided to enter the U.N. in order to prevent the grave consequences arising therefrom.

Yon Hak-chun, director of the prospecting guidance department of the Ministry of Natural Resources Development, said that any attempt to fix the division of the country through the creation of "two Koreas" by taking advantage of the entry into the U.N. cannot be allowed.

Though the North and South entered the U.N. separately, he stressed, the day is sure to come when the reunified Korea will take a single seat in the United Nations.

Yi Ho-ung, vice-chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administration and Economic Guidance Committee, emphasized:

It is the mission of the times for the United Nations to dynamically push ahead with the common cause of mankind.

The U.N., proceeding from its noble mission and purpose, should make every effort for a fair settlement of the Korean question in the international arena in the future.

Arguments for U.S. Nuclear Umbrella Denounced

SK1809030791 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0006 GMT 13 Sep 91

[NODONG SINMUN 13 September "special article": "Deceptive Assertion on Protection by Nuclear Umbrella"]

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Although the imperialists employ various arts of disguise, these are nothing but cunning tactics aimed at blurring the reason of the people of the world and realizing their aggressive and plunderous objective.

The U.S. authorities are employing all sorts of sophisms to continuously maintain the nuclear weapons deployed overseas and to justify their nuclear blackmail and nuclear war maneuvers. A typical instance is the U.S. raving about protection for South Korea by the nuclear weapons deployed there, describing them as a nuclear umbrella and deterrent.

U.S. President Bush some time ago said that the United States will keep up its security commitment to South Korea and provide it with a nuclear umbrella in the future as well. U.S. authorities, including U.S. Defense Secretary Cheney, stressed that the United States will invariably institute the policy of protecting South Korea with a nuclear umbrella and that the nuclear weapons in South Korea are carrying out the role of a deterrent holding back the nuclear threat. According to their allegation, some 1,000 nuclear weapons deployed there are not offensive but a nuclear shield and deterrent aimed at protecting South Korea from someone's threat and attack. This is an absurd sophistry.

It is deceptive that the U.S. ruling group should describe their nuclear weapons in South Korea as a nuclear shield. The U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea are clearly a means for nuclear war. Everyone is aware that nuclear weapons are an important instrument of the U.S. policy of strength, policy of aggression and war. U.S. military circles also say that the basis of U.S. state strategy is the policy of strength based on nuclear arms and that the United States should have a nuclear dagger to cut and eat the world as it pleases. In other words, according to this, those who have the nuclear superiority become the ultimate victor and can dominate the world. The United States is accelerating the testing and production of nuclear weapons to secure superiority in strength and to threaten and blackmail other countries, and to wage a nuclear war.

The U.S. imperialists have deployed numerous nuclear weapons in South Korea to make South Korea its frontline strategic base and ignite a nuclear war against our republic and other countries. In short, it is very clear that the U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea are designed for use, not for display. This was stated by the top U.S. rulers themselves. Former U.S. President Reagan, who came to South Korea as an incumbent ruler, visited the frontline areas. Looking over the area of the northern half of the Republic, he said that the United States does not preclude the possibility of using nuclear weapons in case of emergency on the Korean peninsula. The former U.S. ambassador to Japan confessed that the nuclear weapons deployed in Japan and South Korea are designed for a preemptive strike and are aimed at North Korea.

In fact, the U.S. imperialists are raving that the Korean peninsula is the most likely area for the use of nuclear weapons, and are keeping the nuclear weapons in South Korea in readiness to be used at any time. The U.S. imperialists are also stepping up nuclear operational exercises, such as nuclear firing and nuclear bomb dropping exercises, in South Korea. We can see from this that the U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea are not a nuclear shield but a nuclear spear aimed at targets and moving constantly. The so-called nuclear deterrent babbled about by the U.S. ruling group is like a murderer-robber saying that the deadly weapon he holds in his hand is a means to protect someone's life.

They are raving that South Korea is under someone's threat in an attempt to convince the people of the world of their deceptive and shameless sophistry. This is also preposterous. The entire world knows that there is no threat of southward invasion on the Korean peninsula. Our republic is a non-nuclear state that treasures peace. Our republic not only has no intention of invading the South at all, but has no nuclear weapons at all, and consistently calls for denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. Nevertheless, the U.S. rulers are spreading fabricated lies, such as North's nuclear plan and nuclear threat, engaging in an anti-Republic smear campaign. By this means, they are attempting to give our Republic a public image as a dangerous state in the eyes of the international community so as to give reason to their assertion on the protection of South Korea by a nuclear umbrella.

As seen from the facts, the assertion on the protection of South Korea by the so-called nuclear umbrella raved about by the U.S. ruling group today is far from convincing nor does it have any feasibility. U.S. Asian affairs expert, Professor Scalapino, and Taylor, deputy director of the International Institute of Strategic Affairs, touching on the inappropriateness of the assertion on the protection of South Korea by a nuclear umbrella, stated that if it is for the sake of security only, the United States need not deploy nuclear weapons in South Korea and that this is rather detrimental to the interests of the United States, South Korea, and the Northeast Asian region.

The United States has no cause whatever for deploying nuclear weapons in South Korea. This makes the South Korean people insecure and endangers peace and security in Asia. As long as a vast number of nuclear weapons exist in South Korea, our people will be ill at ease, nor will Asia be at ease. The United States should remove the dangerous nuclear umbrella from South Korea at an early date. This will eliminate the main source of misfortune that gravely threatens peace and security on the Korean peninsula and in Asia.

Daily Says U.S. Must Remove Nuclear Threat

SK1809104991 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1000 GMT 18 Sep 91

["The United States Must Comply With DPRK's Demand To Remove Nuclear Threat"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang September 18 (KCNA)—The United States must not resort to humbug but comply with the just demand of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to pull its nuclear weapons out of South Korea and remove its nuclear threat from the Korean peninsula, says NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

It is natural that our republic which is now exposed to a nuclear threat from the United States should demand it to withdraw its nuclear weapons and remove the nuclear threat, and it is a legitimate sovereign right of our republic, the article says, and goes on:

Our republic has every right to demand that the United States remove the nuclear threat from our country also from the point of view of international law.

Our republic is a non-nuclear state which signed the Nuclear Non- Proliferation Treaty [NPT]. The treaty gives non-nuclear states which signed it a legitimate right to demand nuclear states to refrain from a nuclear threat. Our aim in signing the NPT, truth to tell, was to get the U.S. nuclear weapons withdrawn from the Korean peninsula and remove the nuclear threat against us and, furthermore, to denuclearize the Korean peninsula.

It is entirely justifiable for us to demand that the United States pull its nuclear weapons out of South Korea and remove its nuclear threat either in view of the demand of the treaty or in view of the right of our republic under the treaty.

The United States, as a nuclear state, is obliged to refrain from a nuclear threat against signatories to the treaty, non-nuclear states in particular.

Hence, it must not shun our demand and efforts in regard to the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula but faithfully discharge its obgigation under the treaty.

The U.S. ruling quarters, however, are craftily scheming to duck their responsibility and duty, ignoring our republic's legitimate right as a non-nuclear state.

This is vividly manifested in their attempts to lay the blame for the nuclear threat at our door, taking issue with us with a fictitious talk about "development of nuclear weapons."

They are even trying to force a unilateral "nuclear inspection" on us, while keeping mum about an "inspection" of their more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea, the main source of the danger of nuclear war.

This is aimed at shirking their responsibility for the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula, toning down international pressure on them and justifying their moves for a nuclear war.

Weekly U.S.-South Military Exercises Reported

14, 15, 16 Sep Actions

SK1809051691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0455 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang September 18 (KCNA)—The U.S. Pacific Air Force and Navy commands on September 16 staged aerial surprise attack exercises aimed at increasing capabilities of a surprise attack on targets in the inland area and strategical depths of the northern half of Korea in the skies above Oeyon and Tokjok Islets and Yoju of South Korea, according to military sources.

Mobilized there were formations of Pacific-based F-4s and FA-18s and more than 150 fighter-bombers, assault planes, observation planes, reconnaissance planes and transport planes of the U.S. Air Force based in South Korea and the puppet airforce.

On September 15, heavy tank groups of the puppet army fired a volley of shells, moving from Kumpa-ri, Paju County, toward the Military Demarcation Line. And 105 mm artillery carriages of the puppet army which took the starting position in Kuup-ri, Paju County, held a mobile exercise, quickly moving toward Chuwol-ri.

105 mm artillery groups of the puppet army massed in Yulli-ri, Cholwon County, South Korean Kangwon Province, on September 14 took position and fired more than 40 shells, while tank and gun carriage groups which assembled in Tonggu-ri, Yonchon County, staged a military exercise, moving toward the Demarcation Line.

On September 15, formations of helicopters of the puppet army staged a war exercise for infiltrating into the depth of our side in areas along the Military Demarcation Line, making an ultra-low flight from Yonchon to Munsan. On the 14th, 12 helicopters staged an aerial infiltration exercise, landing on any place, while flying from Pangmok-ri, Paju County, to Okgye-ri, Yonchon County.

The planes mobilized in the aerial war exercises in South Korea on September 14 and 16 totaled more than 1,100.

16, 17 Sep Exercises

SK1909062391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0451 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang September 19 (KCNA)—The U.S. Pacific Air Force command staged a joint ground strike exercise in the sky above South Korea on September 17, according to military sources.

The war game aimed at a preemptive strike at targets in the strategical depths of the northern half of Korea was staged in the sky above Anmyon Islet and Chongju with the mobilisation of formations of F-4s and F-16s based in Japan proper and the Pacific and more than 250 fighter-bombers, assault planes, observation planes and reconnaissance planes of the U.S. Air Force based in South Korea and the puppet airforce.

On the 16th, the U.S. Pacific Navy command sent formations of Pacific-based FA-18s, A-6s and AV-8s pursuit-assault planes, assault planes and VTOL [vertical takeoff and landing] assault planes to the sky above South Korea for a long-distance bombing exercise.

On the same day, the U.S. imperialists staged a mid-air refueling exercise in the sky above Oeyon Islet with tanker planes based in the Pacific.

On the 16th and 17th, the South Korean puppets mobilized motorized units for a ground attack exercise in Hwachon and Tongduchon with the support of formations of fighter-bombers and assault planes. In the same period, they staged a naval attack exercise on the sea off Samchok and Kangnung with many combatant ships under the cover of formations of fighter-bombers.

The warplanes mobilized in the aerial war exercises in South Korea on September 16 alone totaled more than 800.

'Ideological Offensive' Aimed at Young People

SK1909105391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013 GMT 19 Sep 91

["NODONG SINMUN on Imperialists' Ideological and Cultural Offensive Against Young People of Socialist Countries"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang September 19 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today notes that the imperialists are directing the sharp edge of their ideological and cultural offensive to the young generation of socialist countries in executing their "peaceful transition" strategy.

The article points out that the imperialists' ideological and cultural offensive against the young people of socialist countries, the third and fourth generations who have not been tempered in revolutionary practice, is aimed at degenerating them ideologically and morally by playing on the characteristics of young people in a crafty manner.

It further says:

The sharp edge of their ideological and cultural offensive is, first of all, directed to breaking the faith of young people in socialism. They are zealously advertising the "advantages" of capitalism to make the young people abandon their faith in socialism. They are trying to create illusion about capitalism by advertising all shades of bourgeois philosophy and ideological trends as "attractive ideas" and widely spreading the bourgeois theories of freedom, bourgeois pluralism, capitalist market economy and the like. The U.S.-led imperialists are working overtime to spread such ideological trends and infuse "liberalism" into the minds of young people and, on this basis, encourage them to stand against socialism of their own accord. Notably, the U.S. imperialists have set up many overseas agencies at a stupendous cost to instigate the young people and intellectuals to anti-socialist actions.

The imperialists are also intensifying their ideological offensive to induce the young people to discard patriotism.

The U.S. imperialists are these days making desperate efforts to make young people betray their country and nation by using their reactionary ideological concepts including cosmopolitanism.

The reactionary nature of the imperialists' ideological and cultural offensive against young people at present lies in barring them from discharging their mission and role as the motive force of social development and, furthermore, detracking them from the road of revolution.

The peoples and youths of revolutionary countries can firmly defend their socialist gains only when they see through the reactionary nature of the imperialists' ideological and cultural offensive and heighten revolutionary vigilance against it, stresses the article.

Vice Premier Meets Japanese NHK Group

SK1809113891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1033 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang September 18 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier Kim Tal-hyon today met and had a conversation with a Japanese NHK coverage group led by Junichi Hayashi.

Vice-Chairman of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries O Mun-han was on hand.

Vice-Premier Kim Tal-hyon answered questions put by the group.

PRC Leaders Attend Banquet at DPRK Embassy

SK1809022691 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 8 Sep 91

[Text] On the occasion of the 43d anniversary of the founding of the DPRK, our country's embassy in China held a banquet on 7 September.

Invited there were Peng Chong, vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress; Zhu Liang, head of the International Liaison Department of the CPC Central Committee; Ai Zhisheng, minister of radio, cinema, and television; He Jingzhi, acting minister of culture; Han Huaizhi, deputy chief of general staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army; Yu Lei, vice minister of public security; Liu Bin, vice minister of the State Education Commission; Fu Zhihuan, vice minister of railways; Liu Shuqing, chairman of the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs; Li Zhaoxing, assistant minister of foreign affairs; Yu Xiaosong, assistant minister of foreign economic relations and trade; Huang Shiming, vice president of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries; Gan Yetao, vice president of the China-Korea Friendship Association; and other functionaries concerned.

Attending there were also Chu Chang-chun, our country's ambassador to China, and other embassy officials.

Our country's ambassador to China and Vice Chairman Peng Chong made speeches at the banquet.

Vice Chairman Peng Chong praised the Korean people in his speech for effecting success in the struggle for economic development and national construction, by maintaining socialism and displaying the spirit of self-reliance and fortitude for the past 43 years. He wholeheartedly wished our people more success in the future.

Saying that achieving national reunification as soon as possible is the supreme task of all Korean people, he pointed out: The Chinese party and government consistently support the efforts of the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK Government to achieve reunification of the country. The Chinese party and government also support national reunification by confederation based on one nation, one state, two systems, and two governments, which President Kim Il- song put forward.

He added that, even through various stumbling blocks may arise in the course of advancing, we are convinced that the indomitable efforts of all the Korean people will without fail effect a final victory in the cause of reunification.

Saying that the two countries of China and the DPRK are intimate neighbors which are joined by the same rivers and mountains and that the people of the two countries are good neighbors and brothers sharing life and death, he pointed out: In the days of arduous war and in the days of peaceful construction, the people of our two countries have always supported and helped each other and have forged a deep and warm friendship. In recent years, the leaders of our two countries have made mutual visits to each country on several occasions, steadily promoting the development of friendly and cooperative China-DPRK relations.

Steadily consolidating and developing the China-DPRK friendship is a firm policy of the Chinese party and government. No matter what abrupt changes may take place in the international situation, China, as in the past days, will make every effort to develop the traditional friendly and cooperative China-DPRK relations.

In conclusion, he stressed that the great China-DPRK friendship, which has endured all trials, will be brilliant generation after generation.

Those who attended the banquet toasted the immortal friendship and solidarity between China and the DPRK, the long life and good health of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the long life and good health of dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, the long life and good health of respected Comrade Deng Xiaoping, Comrade Jiang Zemin, Comrade Yang Shangkun, and Comrade Li Peng.

The banquet was held in a friendly atmosphere.

Prior to the banquet, a film show was held in our country's embassy on 6 September for various countries' diplomatic officials in China.

IRNA Delegation Arrives in Pyongyang 17 Sep

SK1709154191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1521 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang September 17 (KCNA)—A delegation of IRANIAN NEWS AGENCY (IRNA) led by its Director General Hussein Nasiri arrived here today.

It was met at the airport by Director General of the Korean Central News Agency Kim Ki-yong and Iranian Ambassador to Korea Hasan Dabir.

In the evening KCNA hosted a reception for the delegation.

North-South Student Contacts Held at Panmunjom

SK1809160291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1527 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Panmunjom September 18 (KCNA)—A working-level contact between student delegates of the Korean language department of Kim Il-song University and student delegates of the national language course of Konkuk University of South Korea to discuss the Pyongyang visit of a study tour group of South Korean students was held at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom today.

Members of our side's student delegation led by Yi Taek-kon, student of the Korean language department of Kim Il-song University and members of the South side's delegation led by Sin Song-mok, student of the national language course of Konkuk University warmly hugged each other, shedding tears of emotion.

The head of our side's delegation said that he heard news that all student delegates of Yonsei and Korea Universities who were coming to Panmunjom were arrested in Munsan yesterday, but they bravely came to the place of talks.

Saying he tried to participate in the "91 pan-national rally" and the August 15 grand reunification festival of students and hold talks for reunification with fellow students in the South, but he could not go to Seoul as the U.S. imperialists and the splittists did not allow him to pass through Panmunjom, he told that he has come to harden his determination to remove the U.S. imperialists and the splittist forces at any cost in order to realize national reunification.

And he stressed that the current contact must be brought to a success so that studnets of the Korean language department and the national language course will go and come to the North and the South.

Then delegates of both sides started discussion of the main issue.

Head of our side Yi Taek-kon first said words of greetings.

He said all our youth and students in the North always remember the strong fighting spirit of fellow students of the National Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop), brave lions who fight, unhesitatingly devoting their precious lives and youth to the road for independence, democracy and reunification, and sincerely praise them highly.

Pointing out that today's contact would become the first starting-point that would greatly contribute to realising great national unity and national reunification by breaking "unified channel of dialogue" on the lips of the splittist forces and opening the door of independent cooperation and exchange between students in the North and the South, he said: In this sense, we actively support and approve the proposal made by the students of the national language course of Konkuk University.

Student Sin Song-mok, head of the student delegation of Konkuk University of South Korea, spoke next.

Through this meeting, we want to affirm the reunification will of the students in the North and the South and confirm that the 70 million fellow countrymen are one in national reunification, he said.

Expressing his hope that the sister relations with the Korean language department of Kim Il-song University, study tour and cultural festivals would contribute to reunification, he explained their contents and programmes.

The head of our side proposed to have the following matters as the keynote of independent cooperation and exchange between students in the North and the South.

Firstly, exchanges between the students in the North and the South must thoroughly exclude intervention of a third person and must be held independently between students in the North and the South.

Secondly, independent interchanges between students in the North and the South must by all means contribute to national reconciliation, unity and national ruenification.

Thirdly, exchange between students in the North and the South must include free travel and activities, not being affected by any social or lawful limitation and restriction.

In this regard, the delegate of the South side approved this offer in principle and clarified his view that there cannot be functions apart from reunification.

Today's contact between students in the North and the South proceeded in an atmosphere overflowing with warm compatriotic feelings and intimacy as brothers without any slight difference or formality.

They agreed to hold next contact at 3 pm on September 24.

Reportage on Activities of Chondaehyop Delegation

Attends Student Meeting

SK1709153791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang September 17 (KCNA)—A meeting of students of the North, the South and overseas to vow to frustrate the ruinous divisive diplomacy of the U.S.-No Tae-u "regime", turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone and get a nonaggression declaration adopted was held in Pyongyang Tuesday.

The meeting was addressed by Choe Hyon-tok, chairman of the Korean Students Committee.

He said a nonaggression declaration must be adopted between North and South, a peace agreement signed between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States, the armed forces of the North and the South be cut drastically and the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons be withdrawn from South Korea, and thus the Korean peninsula be turned into a nuclear-free, peace zone, if a durable peace is to be guaranteed in Korea and preconditions be created for its peaceful reunification.

Through a struggle to smash the divisive moves of the South Korean authorities, he stressed, the road to "two Koreas" must be blocked at any cost and activities be conducted in various fields for the sharing of a single seat in the United Nations.

Calling upon the students to make strenuous efforts for a great unity of the whole nation, he said:

We should integrate each other's argument and action and achieve solidarity and unity on the principle of giving precedence to the idea of reunification, irrespective of the differences in ideology, idea, political view and religious belief, residence and political affiliation, and thus powerfully wage a nationwide mass movement for national reunification.

Representatives of the students of various universities in Pyongyang spoke at the meeting.

Speaking at the meeting, delegate of the South Korean National Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop) Pak Song-hui said that Chondaehyop would strengthen solidarity with the students in the South and the North and Korean students overseas in the struggle for peace and reunification of the country to smash the splittist forces' scheme for national division and war provocation and achieve peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula.

Paek Il-su, head of the delegation of the Overseas Korean Students Council, in his speech said that the council will frustrate all manner of attempts of the splittists and fight for the convocation of a political consultative meeting for national reunification to achieve reunification through a confederacy, and wage a more resolute struggle to form the Pan-National Student Alliance for National Reunification through an active, independent exchange of Korean students in the North, the South and overseas and to get nuclear weapons and the U.S. troops withdrawn from South Korea.

A joint resolution to cope with the imminent separate entry of the North and the South of Korea into the United Nations and moves for war and confrontation was adopted at the meeting.

The resolution says:

Sharing the understanding that the entry of the North and the South into the U.N. currently under way is an abnormal formula, we students in the North, South and overseas will urge the United States and the South Korean authorities to seek a single seat in the U.N. and resolutely fight to this end.

We hold that to fix a peaceful structure on the Korean peninsula a nonaggression declaration should be adopted between the authorities of the North and the South and a peace agreement be signed between us and the United States.

And we consider it unjust to demand a unilateral "nuclear inspection" of the northern half of Korea without the withdrawal of U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea, and strongly hold a simultaneous nuclear inspection of the North and the South.

We students in the North, South and overseas will fight to promote the great unity of our nation and realize independent exchange and struggle to form a "pan-national student alliance for national reunification," the core body of our unity.

A letter to the U.N. secretary-general was adopted at the meeting.

Noting that there is no ground for the United States to refuse to sign a peace agreement with the North now that the North and the South are joining the U.N., and there is no reason why the North and the South should not adopt a nonaggression declaration, the letter expresses the expectation that the U.N. will exercise its influence in promoting a solution to this problem in keeping with its function and duties.

Contending that if an international "nuclear inspection" is to be made of the North, inspection should be made of the U.S. nuclear weapons and equipment in South Korea simultaneously, the letter expresses hopes that this question will be discussed in due course and solved in a fair manner at the U.N. General Assembly.

Tours Chuche Tower

SK1909114391 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 14 Sep 91

[Text] Students Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung, delegates of the National Council of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop] of South Korea, toured the Tower of the Chuche Idea on 13 September. When the Chondaehyop delegates arrived, officials at the tower welcomed them enthusiastically with cheers and gave bouquets to them. The delegates looked around the tower with an official of the tower as a guide. Then they viewed Pyongyang city from the observation platform.

After that, they wrote the following in the guest book: Let us vigorously march, holding aloft the anti-U.S. banner for independence, until the day of a reunified fatherland when 70 million brethren will become one by chopping off the chain of subjugation and repression. We firmly believe that the correct ideology will be eternal together with our nation and all of the masses of the world.

[Dated] 13 September, four years before the realization of national reunification

[Signed] Song Yong-sung and Pak Song-hui, the Fifth Chondaehyop, the iron-like rank of national salvation.

The Chondaehyop delegates toured the Changgwangwon yesterday.

Meets Former ROK Politician

SK1309055891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0429 GMT 13 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang September 13 (KCNA)—Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung, delegates of the South Korean National Council of Student Representatives, (Chondaehyop) met with Kim Hui-won, who was former chairman of the Kangwon Provincial district branch of the "Reunification Democratic Party" and central presidium member of the "Democratic Liberal Party" of South Korea, at the Pyongyang Koryo Hotel Thursday.

Kim Hui-won expressed thanks to Chondaehyop for having sent its delegates to Pyongyang in order to achieve national reunification in the '90s without fail by bringing the Seoul pan-national rally and the grand Paektu-Halla march and the grand reunification festival of students for the promotion of national reunification to a success.

He asked Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung to wage a good fighting till the day of reunification, extending them unstinting praises, who arrived in Pyongyang across the death line in safety and are displaying vehement activities, firmly determined to dedicate even their precious lives to the motherland and the nation.

This is also our land, Pak Song-hui said, and asked him to work hard, not forgetting that the 40 million people are vigorously struggling in the South for the country's reunification.

Kim Hwi-won presented souvenirs to the delegates of Chondaehyop.

Then the students posed for a souvenir photograph with Kim Hui- won.

Visits Studio, Plant

SK1909070091 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] The delegates of the South Korean National Council of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop] who are staying in Pyongyang visited the Korean Art Film Studio yesterday. The film artists, who greeted the Chondaehyop coed Yim Su-kyong one year ago, enthusiastically welcomed students Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung, refreshing their memory of the deep emotion, applauding, and chanting of "Fatherland reunification, hurrah, Chondaehyop!" The actors and actresses ran up to the Chondaehyop delegates to offer them bouquets.

Coed Pak Song-hui, responding to the artists' warm welcome, said that the Korean Art Film Studio was one of the very places she had wanted to visit after arriving in the land of the North, adding that she was very pleased to meet those who were making earnest efforts to build correct national culture. She then stressed that she wished them to make many good films fostering national spirit.

Paek Min, director of the studio, warmly welcomed, in the name of the film artists, the Chondaehyop delegates who visited the studio and said that the film artists warmly support and encourage Chondaehyop, which is waging a heroic struggle for fatherland reunification in the land of the South. He said that the artists in the northern half of our Republic were greatly encouraged by the Chondaehyop students' struggle, and expressed a conviction that Chondaehyop will continue a heroic struggle for the sacred cause of reunification. He stressed that the artists will give Chondaehyop their full and invariable support and encouragement in its struggle, and asked the Chondaehyop delegates to convey their greetings to the 1 million students of Chondaehyop. The artists warmly welcomed delegates Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung, chanting "Chondaehyop, Chondaehyop."

Then the Chondaehyop delegates toured various sections of the studio, such as the streets for location shooting and the building for indoor filming. Before leaving the Korean Art Film Studio, the Chondaehyop delegates wrote the following passage in the visitors' record of impressions: We the 1 million students in the South resolve to wage a resolute struggle, leading it, along with the 70 million fellow countrymen, to reunify the divided fatherland independently and peacefully not later than the 50th year of its division. Let us carry out the reunification by means of a confederal system with our own hands in our own generation by 1995.

Meanwhile, Chondaehyop delegates Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung on 6 September visited Sangwon cement complex. Led by the employees, they toured the complex's various production processes, which have been formed into an excellent, modern large-scale construction materials base, and had an entire view of the plant from an observatory.

The Chondaehyop delegates then visited the home of Na Chon-kuk, a kiln worker of the plant's kiln work site. The Chondaehyop delegates, completing the visit, left the following passage in the visitors' record of impressions: You the workers who are leading vital and practical lives remind us of our 10 million beloved workers in South Korea, who must be waging a bloody struggle now. Let us all struggle to achieve the labor liberation of the South Korean masses and the fatherland reunification. Let us realize the fatherland reunification, for which the 70 million fellow countrymen aspire, and wage a strenuous struggle to build a world in which the workers of this land become the true masters by realizing the fatherland reunification, for which the 70 million fellow countrymen yearn.

6 September, 47th year of the aspiration for reunification

Song Yong-sung, Pak Song-hui, Fifth Chondaehyop, the iron-willed ranks for national salvation.

Police Shooting of Student in South Reported

SK1909051291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0459 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang September 19 (KCNA)—The No Tae-u ruling group reportedly shot to death a postgraduate of Seoul National University with a pistol while cracking down upon a demonstration of the university students.

On September 17, students of the university raided a police booth as part of their series of protests against the moves of the authorities to intensify suppression of them.

Puppet police fired 10 live bullets at the protesters, and one of the bullets hit Han Kuk-won, 27, a postgraduate of the university, in the chest.

This murder is one more unpardonable criminal act of the No Tae-u authorities who have left no stone unturned in their bid to suppress and stifle the righteous struggle of students.

Commentary Denouces South 'Privileged Clan'

SK1509085991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0830 GMT 15 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang September 15 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a signed commentary today raps at the scandalous practices of privileged clan in South Korea which are being brought into light one on the heels of the other these days, causing a big stir.

People say that in South Korea the number of privileged quarters who have been found engaged in irregularities since April is more than 1,070, that of the "local assemblymen" disciplined for swindle and fraud over 40, and that of the "government officials" charged with malfeasance of various descriptions including the collection of valuables and misappropriation of public fund 3,423 in Seoul alone during the first eight months of this year.

Judging from an increasing number of scandals in South Korea at present, it appears that the privileged quarters are competing with one another to feather their nest in the closing days of the "Sixth Republic regime," the commentary says, adding:

Facts vividly reveal that the "Sixth Republic regime" of No Tae- u is a corrupt "regime" which inherited not only the fascist dictatorial qualities but also thoroughpaced habits of irregularities of both the Yusin and the "Fifth Republic."

Branding No Tae-u as the very one responsible for scandals including the Suso housing scandal, an extra-large one, which have been committed behind the facade of "stabilization of people's life," it stresses:

While this military hooligan, the kingpin of corruption, is at the helm of "power," it is natural for his ranking underlings to seize the oportunity to engage themselves in corruption.

Just like father, like son.

Daily Calls South Government 'Teargas Regime'

SK1909051691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0446 GMT 19 Sep 91

["'Teargas Regime' Staking Its Fate on Repression"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang September 19 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today brands No Tae-u's "regime of the Sixth Republic" as a "teargas regime," a "murderous regime" dwarfing the "Fifth Republic."

Recalling that the No Tae-u ruling group has squandered 5,700 million won, or eight times the "budgetary" appropriation scaled at 720 million won, in purchasing tear gas for crackdown on demonstrations during the first eight months of this year, the news analyst says:

This furnishes another clear proof that the No "regime" is a truculent military fascist dictatorial "regime" which is annually intensifying crackdown on the people.

As far as the South Korean people's demonstration which the puppets regard as an object of suppression are concerned, it is their elementary demand for democracy like the freedom of speech, the press, assembly, etc.

Nevertheless, the No group, far from accepting the just demand of people, is brutally cracking down on the patriotic democratic forces which demand independence, democracy and reunification with the "security-oriented rule" outdistancing that of the "Fifth Republic," in actuality, while advertising "democratization."

It is an anti-popular criminal act for the South Korean authorities to include in the "budgetary" expenditure the fund for the purchase of tear gas.

The traitor No has never let a chance pass by without vociferating about "social welfare," "stabilization of people's living" and the like. But the South Korean people are suffering hardships in their life.

Facts fully prove that the No Tae-u "regime" is an anti-popular, anti-democratic fascist dictatorial "regime."

The "teargas regime" can never last long.

'Suppression' of Students in South Condemned

SK1809055491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0528 GMT 18 Sep 91

["Frantic Wholesale Suppression"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang September 18 (KCNA)—The No Tae-u group is stretching its crooked hand of suppression to the patriotic students with a clamour about "campus stability". This is aimed at bridging over its ruling crisis which is growing acute in the latter half of No's office.

A NODONG SINMUN says this today.

For example, it notes, the security department of the puppet supreme prosecutor's office made a list of some 120 "students of chuche idea group who praise the North and sympathize with its policy" and sent it to the lower units a few days ago to arrest them.

Even according to "results of the parliamentary investigation into administration" released by the puppets, the No group arrested 1,942 students since 1989, including 239 students of chuche idea group taken into custody by the end of August since the fascist "security joint investigation headquarters" was set up in April 1989.

This clearly shows how desperately the No Tae-u fascist clique is running about in its crackdown upon the South Korean people, particularly upon the patriotic-minded students.

The struggle of the South Korean students is a just patriotic struggle to terminate the tragedy of national division and build an independent and democratic reunified Korea where there would be no foreign forces and fascism and the struggle is waged according to their independent judgement and decision; it can by no means be incriminated.

The No Tae-u ruling quarters are brandishing the sword, charging that students "praise and sympathize with the North". This is, however, a pretext invented to suppress them more harshly by connecting them with the North and a deliberate act to aggravate North-South relations and put a spoke in the wheel of national unity and reunification.

The No group should act with discretion and stop suppressing the patriotic students forthwith.

Death of Central Committee Alternate Member Noted

SK1909093891 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0100 GMT 13 Sep 91

[Text] The obituary for Comrade Yi Tong-nin reads:

Comrade Yi Tong-nin, alternate member of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] and labor hero, died at 1400 [0500 GMT] on 12 September 1991 at the age of 69. Comrade Yi Tong-nin struggled with devotion for socialist construction and upheld the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il-song, the respected and beloved leader of our party and people. While working and upholding our party's economic policy as the responsible functionary at an enterprise for many years, Comrade Yi Tong-nin contributed to strengthening the economic might of the country by devoting all of his wisdom and energy.

Until the last moment of his life Comrade Yi Tong-nin firmly established the unitary ideological system of the party and was infinitely loyal to the party and the leader. Although Comrade Yi Tong-nin has died, his meritorious services devoted to our party and our revolutionary cause will remain forever.

[Dated] 12 September 1991

[Signed] The WPK Central Committee

Paper Praises Kim Il-song Work on Socialism

SK1409093091 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0015 GMT 8 Sep 91

[NODONG SINMUN 8 September "special article": "Powerful Ideological and Theoretical Weapons That Lead Chuche Socialist Cause to Victory"]

[Text] The struggle of our people who are confidently advancing along the road of socialism under the banner of chuche is always brilliant with victory and glory.

All victories of our people are a product of the wise leadership of the party and the leader who organized and mobilized the entire party and all people by setting forth precise programs for struggle and ideological and theoretical policies in each time and each step of the revolution and construction.

The report, "Let Us Accomplish the Socialist and Communist Cause to the End By Upholding the Revolutionary Banner of Chuche," made public by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song at the congratulatory meeting to mark the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Republic on 8 September 1988, is an immortal work which comprehensively elucidated ideas and theories which our people should firmly take hold of and embody in carrying out the chuche socialist cause.

This work was published at a time when the imperialists' antisocialist maneuvers to ideologically destroy the socialist countries became more undisguised and socialist construction was more vigorously carried out in our country. Thus, the work gave our people and the revolutionary people of the world firm confidence in the victory of the socialist and communist cause.

The work proudly summed up our Republic's 40-year history, which has been strengthened and developed amid the struggle for socialist construction, and clearly expounded the strategic tasks facing our people in the struggle to accomplish the chuche revolutionary cause. The work also elucidated the methods of implementation.

The work comprehensively unfolded the principle and method of national reunification and the tasks for achieving the independence of the entire world.

With scientific nature, profoundness, and the revolutionary nature of ideologies and theories included in this work, it has become a powerful weapon leading the socialist and communist cause to victory.

Today's brilliant achievements made by our people in building popular mass-centered socialism of our own style and the proud realities of our society clearly prove the justness of ideology and theory expounded by the work.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Our line to accomplish the socialist and communist cause is precise and our goal is clear.

It is an important demand for the popular masses in winning brilliant victory in revolution and construction to have correct lines and methods. The great significance of the work is that the work clearly elucidated correct lines and clear goals for our people, who are advancing the road of chuche, to accomplish the socialist cause. The work also expounded concrete methods of implementation.

By summing up the victorious path traveled by our Republic, the work gave our people great national pride and confidence in sure victory. The entire course of socialist construction along which our Republic has traveled is the course in which chuche was established. As stressed in the work, our Republic can advance along the straight road of socialism and communism even amid the whirlpool of history deciding the destiny of revolution because it always firmly maintains the position of chuche, thoroughly embodies the principle of continued revolution, and strengthens the main forces of the revolution and constantly enhances their role.

No matter how arduous the revolutionary path and no matter how many new problems not solved by existing formulas may arise, our people can always advance victoriously without the slightest deviation or vicissitudes thanks to the chuche-oriented lines and strategic and tactical policies.

Our people honorably defend the dignity of the Republic and effect continuous upsurges in socialist construction by crushing the U.S. imperialists' aggressive maneuvers and constant new war provocations. This cannot be thought of without our party's precise leadership for the establishment of chuche.

Indeed, our Republic's history is that of the brilliant victory of independent people who vigorously advance along the road of socialism under the banner of chuche and is a history of great creation in which the new life of socialism has bloomed with the boundless strength of the popular masses.

By summing up the victorious path of the Korean revolution, the work gave our people great national pride and honor and made our people firmly confident in the victory of the socialist cause.

Today, when the imperialists' antisocialist maneuvers are more atrocious than ever before, the banner of socialism is firmly safeguarded in our country and the superiority and might of socialism are more vigorously displayed because socialism is based on our people's unswerving faith.

Just as in the past, the strategic and tactical leadership of the party and the leader will be wise and our people's faith to advance along the path of chuche will be rock firm. Therefore, our revolution's victory is firmly ensured.

The work elucidated strategic tasks in the socialist construction, as well as methods of implementation. Thus, the work provided our people with guidelines enabling them to more vigorously advance without the slightest deviation or vicissitudes.

Our party's precise strategic and tactical leadership is the lifeline of the socialist cause. Our people accepted the lines and policies put forward by the party and the leader as their own faith. Inspired by these lines and policies, they came to have confidence in the victory of the socialist cause and fully demonstrated burning revolutionary passion and creative ability.

The work clearly expounded the mission and concrete tasks of the Republic government to build socialism and communism by remodeling the entire society on the chuche idea, as well as their implementation methods. The work also elucidated theoretical and practical problems raised for our people in embodying the demand of the chuche idea in the revolution and construction.

The idea of strengthening the popular government and of constantly enhancing its functions and the idea of building a socialist and communist society by reforming nature, men, and social relations and by vigorously accelerating the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—are the precious guideline which our people should firmly take hold of in their advance.

The concrete tasks and methods for reforming nature, men, and society reflect most correctly the demand and interest of the popular masses and the demand of the time. Thus, they brightly illuminate the future of our people who are building socialism.

Today our people's ideological and mental determination to accomplish the cause of socialism of our own style to the end under the leadership of the party and the leader has become more firm, and miracles and innovations are registered in succession in all battlefields of socialist economic construction. Besides, the fine communist custom has bloomed throughout the entire society. All this proves the justness of the work.

Since the work expounded the basic principle and methods for achieving national reunification—the greatest supreme national desire—our people could more vigorously rise in the struggle to expedite national reunification in accordance with the common national demand and in the interest of the nation.

The work clearly elucidated the precise road for the people of all nations to realize the free development and prosperity of their nations in a peaceful world free from domination, subjugation, aggression, and war.

The strategic and tactical policies elucidated in the work serve as a programmatic guideline for victoriously advancing the cause of our revolution and people's independence.

Today our people face the important task of accomplishing the revolutionary cause to the end under the banner of the chuche idea as demanded by the consistent spirit of the work.

Our socialist cause is a historic cause for realizing the independence of the popular masses and is a sacred cause for brilliantly inheriting and accomplishing the chuche cause pioneered by the great leader.

The fact that the imperialists today are even more vicious in their antisocialist maneuvers and antirepublic commotion makes our people exert more strenuous effort to complete the chuche socialist cause which they themselves have chosen.

The road to wholly manifesting the superiority and might of socialism of our own style centered on the popular masses according to the party and the leader lies in continuously adhering to and thoroughly embodying the ideology and theory as presented in the work. What is important here is to vigorously implement the most important remolding work, which is to fulfill our party's overall line.

Vigorously accelerating the socialist economic construction is the most desperate demand put before us at this time. The party's strategic line of chuche-ization, modernization, and scientizing the people's economy must be continuously and thoroughly fulfilled so that the nation's material and technological basis can be firmly provided, ultimately carrying out active struggle to complete in the near future the task put before the rural thesis. Also, the chuche economic management system such as the Taean work system must be embodied to vigorously accelerate economic construction.

To revolutionize, to form into working class, and to intellectualize the people so that they can be fostered into true human beings possessed with an independent ideological consciousness and creative capability are basic duties elucidated in the work to remold man.

The chuche ideological indoctrination must be strengthened in all units so that the people's revolutionary world view can be further thoroughly established and education must be developed so that all the people are firmly prepared politically, ideologically, and scientifically-technologically.

An important task that is being put forth is to endlessly develop the political system in social reform work. It is important to thoroughly establish the system that all national activities are carried out under the leadership of the party; continue to complete the nation's guidance and management system according to the demand of the socialist social development; and work to make the people's government body carry out its duties.

Further elucidating socialism of our own style centered on the popular masses, as revealed in the work, is a firm will of our people. Here we are provided with a strong material basis that enables us to move forward faster; there exists an advanced socialist system that is deeply rooted in this land; and there is an invincible cohesion and unity of the popular masses which is firmly united around the party through one mind and thought.

Our people must further single-heartedly unite around the party and the leader to highly uphold the chuche revolutionary banner under whatever difficulties and firmly adhere to the socialist cause. By doing so, reunification of the fatherland can be achieved without fail in our generation, and we will be able to actively contribute to carrying out the anti-imperialist sovereignty cause.

Daily Discusses Importance of 'Slogans of Faith'

SK1509100391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0815 GMT 15 Sep 91

["It Is Great Pride of Korean People To Go Along the Road of Revolution Under the Slogan of Noble Faith"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang September 15 (KCNA)—It is a great honor and pride of the Korean people to successfully accomplish the cause of the party by displaying mass heroism, consistently upholding the slogan of unshakable conviction like "When the party is determined we can do anything!", says NODONG SINMUN in a signed article Saturday.

The main characteristic features of many slogans of our people in the whole course of the Korean revolution spanning over half a century, such as "Let us hold General Kim Il-song, the great person of the world, in high esteem", "Let us become the vanguard in nation building to lay foundations for democracy, upholding the line of General Kim Il-song!" and "For the party and the leader!" are that they are filled with unfailing loyalty to their leader and indomitable fighting spirit and militant will to successfully carry the ideas, lines and plans of the leader into practice, the article says.

The great pride of the Korean people, the article goes on, lies in the fact that from the start of the revolutionary cause, they have put up slogans of faith carrying their fiery loyalty and struggled under their banner and, in the whole period of the revolution and construction, have struggled not abandoning but holding higher the slogans of faith under whatever circumstances and conditions.

The article reads in part:

The slogans of faith the Korean people have been upholding in history are militant ones which are exerting inexhaustible might in accomplishing the cause of the party.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has said:

"The revolutionary conviction of the Korean communists and people who remain faithful to the respected leader Comrade Kim Il- song will never be shaken."

The might of our people's slogans of faith lies, above all, in the fact that they carry the iron will to steadily defend the party and the revolutionary cause.

Always occupying the first place among the slogans put up by the Korean people in history was the slogan of defending the top brain of the revolution.

"Let us fight devotedly for the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il!"—this slogan of faith can be raised only by a revolutionary people and army who are firmly determined to follow the party and the leader along the long road of the revolution for ever, sharing the same destiny only with their leader to the last.

With such faithful people our party has become a powerful party united as firm as a rock, and our socialism an invincible socialism, most stabilized politically.

The might of our people's slogans also lies in the fact that they are filled with the spirit of absoluteness and unconditionality in carrying out the lines and policies of the party.

This spirit is concentrically manifested in the slogan "When the party is determined we can do anything!" which can be seen now at every grand construction site across the country.

Our people's slogans of faith are banners of eternal struggle and progress which are being carried forward from generation to generation with strong vitality, the article says, adding:

These slogans have inexhaustible vitality because they are given thorough continuity from their inception and reflect their unquestioned trust in and unbounded loyalty to our party.

The inexhaustible vitality finds its particular expression in the aspirations, zeal and fighting spirit of the younger generations who have a youthful vigor and strong militancy.

"Let us become the dependable young vanguard of the Workers' Party of Korea!" and "Let us become young heroes in the worthwhile struggle to glorify the era of the Workers' Party!" The Korean youth are now firmly defending and carrying forward the cause of socialism under these slogans.

The banner of the revolution, the slogan of faith to be upheld by the Korean people for ever is the banner of the great chuche idea, the banner of unity and solidarity and the banner of socialism, the article concludes.

Paper Stresses Revolutionary Role of Intellectuals

SK1609054691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang September 16 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN September 15 comes out with a by-lined article entitled "Intellectuals Are Component of Driving Force of the Revolution" contributed by Dr. Pang Mong-paek.

Pointing out that the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] led the intellectuals, regarding them as a component of the party and as a component of the driving force of the revolution together with the workers and peasants, the paper says:

Engraved in the emblem of the Workers' Party of Korea are a hammer, a sickle and a brush.

This is a clear reflection of the revolutionary character of the Workers' Party of Korea which regards intellectuals as its component together with workers and peasants.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has said:

"Intellectuals are a component of the driving force of the revolution".

It is the viewpoint and stand of the Workers' Party of Korea to regard the intellectuals as a component of the driving force of the revolution, not as a social stratum which serves this and that class.

The WPK regards intellectuals as a component of the driving force of the revolution, above all, because it is a stratum which, like working classes, is opposed to class domination and subjugation by the exploiter class.

Intellectuals hate outmoded and reactionary things, love justice and progress and are sensitive to advanced ideas.

They also live by their own sincere labor.

As seen above, intellectuals are strong in their demand and desire for an independent life and serve the people with mental labour. So, the WPK has pursued a most correct policy toward intellectuals, regarding them as a component of the driving force of the revolution together with workers and peasants.

What is important in the WPK's policy toward intellectuals is to firmly unite them behind the party.

What is important in the wise leadership of the WPK regarding intellectuals as a component of the driving force of the revolution and firmly uniting them is, first of all, that it actively draws them in the struggle to realise the independence of the working masses.

What is important next is that it energetically accelerates their revolutionization and working-classization.

Today, our intellectuals are giving fullest scope to their wisdom and talent in the revolution and construction, the paper declares.

Rice Harvest Expected To Increase

SK1709101691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0957 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang September 17 (KCNA)—Rice harvest has begun in the countryside of Korea.

It is foreseen to harvest 1.5 to 2 more tons of rice from each hectare on an average than last year.

Rural communities across the country worked out plans for each plot of land and are successfully carrying them out from the beginning.

According to data available, rice harvesting has been completed in 10 percent of the total paddy fields in a matter of three days since the harvest began.

Rural communities in South Pyongan and South Hwanghae Provinces are taking the lead in the rice harvesting.

Chongsan cooperative farm has completed the rice harvest in many areas of its paddy fields by operating rice harvesters at full capacity.

The farm foresees 9 tons of paddy rice from each hectare on an average, 10.2 tons at the maximum.

KCNA Reviews 18 Sep Pyongyang Press

SK1809055591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0514 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang September 18 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry messages of greetings to Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from foreign party and state leaders on the occasion of the 43rd anniversary of the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The great leader President Kim Il-song received reply messages from foreign state leaders, according to NODONG SINMUN.

Appearing in the press is a report that immortal classical works of President Kim Il-song were deeply studied and disseminated abroad.

The members of a delegation of the Japanese Society for the Study of Kimilsungism stressed that the august name of President Kim Il-song will shine long together with Mt. Paektu associated with his glorious revolutionary history, says NODONG SINMUN.

MINJU CHOSON dedicates an article to the 55th anniversary of the building of Mt. PaekTu revolutionary base, which says that President Kim Il-song brought about a great upswing in the Korean revolution as a whole with the base as the stronghold.

A meeting was held in Hyesan on the lapse of two decades since the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il gave on-the-spot guidance to the Yanggang provincial art troupe, says the press.

Carried in NODONG SINMUN are messages of greetings sent by the WPK Central Committee to the 53rd annual congress of the People's National Party of Jamaica and to the C.C. [Central Committee], the Party of Union for National Progress of Burundi on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the day of its victory.

The Algerian president sent a floral basket to the Korean Embassy in his country in congratulation of the 43rd anniversary of the founding of the DPRK, says the paper.

Given in the paper is an account of a seminar on the advantages of Korean-style socialism which was held in Jamaica.

The paper in an article stresses that regarding the masses as a teacher and bringing them to the fore is our party's traditional priniciple of activities.

Appearing in the press are an account of the second-day sitting of the national meeting of work-team heads and a congratulatory message from a congratulatory group of the Korean Children's Union to the meeting.

Also seen in the press are an account of a meeting of students in the North, South and abroad held in Pyongyang to vow to frustrate the ruinous divisive diplomacy of the U.S. and No Tae-u "regime", denuclearise the Korean peninsula and urge the adoption of a nonaggression declaration, a joint resolution and a letter to the U.N. secretary-general adopted at the meeting.

A concert was held in Pyongyang to mark the 74th birthday of Yun I-sang, says the press.

Papers inform the readers that the September 17 working-level talks between students of the North and South failed to open due to the obstructions of the South Korean authorities.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with an article stressing that reunification by means of confederation based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments is a great principle defining the most just and reasonable way of national reunification.

A commentary of the paper condemns the South Korean military rulers' scheme to arrest some 120 "students who study the chuche idea".

South Korean news columns of the press include a report that over 5,000 students staged a demonstration against "security- oriented rule" in Kwangju.

Seen in the press is the first installment of an interview with So Sung, a Japan-born Korean student studying in South Korea, who had to serve a prison term of 19 years because of the South Korean authorities, which was carried in the Japanese magazine SEKAI.

The French committee to support the founding of the democratic confederal republic of Koryo brought out the September issue of its bulletin "Korea is one", says NODONG SINMUN.

The paper runs a commentary denouncing U.S. Defense Secretary Cheney's rigmarole about arms buildup.

Foreign news of the paper includes reports that the general secretary of the Communist Party of Portugal stated that his party will remain a communist party forever, the Mozambican president flailed the domestic counterrevolutionary clique for obstructing the peace process at a banquet given for the Brazilian president, the Zimbabwean president called for continued sanctions against South Africa, the Thai prime minister referred to the five- year economic, social development plan of his country, the 45th session of the U.N. General Assembly closed and the construction of a resisting America and aiding Korea memorial started in Dandong, China.

NODONG SINMUN introduces the development of economy and health services in Vietnam, Nepal, Thailand, Pakistan, Yemen, India, Sri Lanka and Laos.

The paper carries an article urging the United States to comply with the demand of the DPRK to commit itself to guaranteeing nuclear safety.

KCNA Reviews 19 Sep Pyongyang Press

SK1909061591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang September 19 (KCNA)—Papers here today report that the great leader President Kim Il-song's work "Let Us Achieve the Great Unity of Our Nation" was studied and disseminated in foreign countries.

Appearing in the press are messages of greetings to Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from foreign party and state leaders on the occasion of the 43rd anniversary of the founding of the DPRK.

NODONG SINMUN carries news that President Kim Il-song received a message from Vietnamese party and state leaders in reply to his message of greetings on the 46th anniversary of the national day of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Works of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il were deeply studied and disseminated in different countries, says the press.

NODONG SINMUN conveys words of South Korean people deeply respecting and revering President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The paper carries a message of greetings sent by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the Central Committee of the African Party for Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde on the 35th anniversary of the founding of the party.

Seen in the paper is an article telling that Comrade Kim Chong- il visited the Chaechon cooperative farm, Chaenyong County, South Hwanghae Province, several times and wisely guided officials to carry through the chuche-based method of farming.

"The Revolutionary Character of the Party and Its Leadership Role Are Fundamental Factors of Advantages of Socialism" is the title of a NODONG SINMUN article.

An account of the closing of the national meeting of work-team heads is given in the press.

Papers report about the DPRK's admission into the United Nations and carry a statement of the DPRK's Foreign Ministry in this regard.

Papers convey words of working people across the country supporting the DPRK's admission into the United Nations.

Printed in papers are an account of the sojourn of the Korean Pochonbo Light Music Troupe in Tokyo and news that a special prize was awarded to a DPRK stamp at the 43rd international stamp fair.

Papers inform the readers that a working-level contact was held between student delegates of the Korean language Department of Kim Il-song University and student delegates of the national language course of Konkuk University of South Korea.

NODONG SINMUN gives an account of a meeting held at the Cuban "Chollima" shipyard to mark the 22nd anniversary of the founding of the South Korean National Democratic Front.

NODONG SINMUN reports that the Namibian president and the general secretary of C.C., the Socialist Party of Nicaragua met with the DPRK ambassadors to those countries.

Commenting on the fact that the South Korean puppets squandered a fabulous sum of money in the "budgetary" appropriation for the purchase of tear-gas canisters to suppress demonstrations, the paper brands the present "regime" as a "teargas canister regime" and a "murderous regime".

South Korean news columns of the press includes reports that some 3,000 students of the Seoul District Federation of General Student Councils (Sochongnyon) staged a rally and demonstration for national reunification, the No Tae-u ruling group shot to death Han Kuk-won, a postgraduate of Seoul National University, by firing live bullets to protesters.

Papers inform the readers that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets continued military exercises against the North.

Appearing in the press is an account of an interview of the Japanese magazine SEKAI with So Sung, a Japan-born Korean who served a prison term of 19 years after being arrested by the South Korean authorities while studying in South Korea.

Papers inform the readers that a joint notice was issued to conduct education in patriotism and revolutionary traditions in China, a historic memorial of the September 18 event was erected in Shenyang, China, delegates to the 4th party congress were elected in Cuba. Achievements of Cuban working people in socialist construction are introduced there.

Included in the foreign news columns of NODONG SINMUN are reports that Yasir 'Arafat again called for the convocation of an international peace conference to settle the Mid-East problem, a joint communique of Namibia and Brazil called for continued sanctions against South Africa and Pakistani prime minister demanded the establishment of a new world order.

Paper carries an article titled "Imperialists' Ideological and Cultural Offensive Against Young People and Its Reactionary Nature".

South Korea

New UN Assembly Head Pledges Support for Seoul

SK1909054491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0215 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] United Nations, Sept. 18 (YONHAP)—Newly elected U.N. General Assembly President Samir Shihabi promised Wednesday full support for South Korea's activities as a new member of the global body.

Saudi Arabia's U.N. ambassador said in a meeting with Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok that it was an honor for him to adopt the resolution on South and North Korea's admission soon after he was elected president of the 46th General Assembly.

The two Koreas gained U.N. membership in the afternoon session of the General Assembly Tuesday. Shihabi was elected president in the morning session.

Yi said his country was ready to actively participate in U.N. operations and play a role commensurate with its status. He also requested the U.N. president's full support in making South Korean President No Tae-u's keynote speech a success.

No is to address the United Nations on Sept. 24.

Yi leaves for Seattle, Washington, Thursday morning to meet No. He will accompany No to the United Nations and Mexico, returning here Sept. 30 for meetings with foreign leaders until Oct. 5.

Army To Begin Guarding B Area at Panmunjom

SK1909040891 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0300 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] The Defense Ministry announced that an official agreement has been made among the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the U.S. Forces Command in the ROK, and the UN Forces Command that the ROK Army will assume responsibility for guarding the B area of the UN Forces side in the Military Armistice Commission Headquarters area in the rear of Panmunjom. Previously, this was the only area that the U.S. Forces in the ROK were assigned to guard in the 155-mile truce line. The change will become effective 1200 on 1 October, which is the 43d anniversary of the founding of the ROK Armed Forces. This means that from then on, the UN Forces will be charged with guarding only the A area of the UN Forces side, including Panmunjom, in the truce line over which the North and the South confront each other.

It is considered significant that the ROK Army will assume the guarding of the B area in the rear of Panmunjom as it is interpreted to mean that the ROK Armed Forces will have an increased role in ROK defense.

A responsible Defense Ministry official said that, despite this decision, the UN Forces Command will continue to be charged with guarding the Joint Security Area of Panmunjom, including a forefront guardpost in it, and that under the condition in which North and South Korea have entered the United Nations, the present armistice system will continue to be maintained.

Financial Assistance to U.S. Troops Debated

SK1909020991 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 19 Sep 91 p 3

[Text] Ruling and opposition lawmakers alike argued yesterday that Korea's financial assistance to the U.S. troops stationed in South Korea and the Soviet Union is excessive.

Rep. Yi Su-in of the newly merged opposition Democratic Party said Korea's share of costs for the upkeep of American forces here will soar to $3.22 billion this year.

Besides, the nation provided $470 million to support the U.S.-led multinational forces in the Gulf, he said in an inspection of the Foreign Ministry.

The political scientist-turned legislator pointed to the nation's current serious economic difficulties, notably the snow-balling trade deficit which is feared to reach $10 billion this year.

He said the trade deficit with the United States, the nation's largest trading partner, amounted to $949 million in the January-July period, amid growing pressure from Washington to widely open Korea's agricultural market.

Noting that the nation posted a trade surplus during the previous Fifth Republic, Yi contended that the growing deficit is a result of the government's "spending diplomacy."

Apart from those financial contributions to the United States, Yi said the government agreed to provide $300 million next year to share the costs for the maintenance of U.S. forces in Korea.

The figure will rise to $500 million in 1995, he said.

The opposition lawmaker voiced objection to another government plan to provide over $2 billion to finance the relocation of the U.S. army base in Yongsan.

Such enormous financial assistance would deal a fatal blow to the Korean economy, he argued.

Rep. Kwon Hun-sung of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party also took issue with a sharp rise in Korea's sharing of the costs for the maintenance of the American forces in Korea.

Kwon urged the government to change its plan to provide the Soviet Union with $3 billion in long-term loans in view of the huge Soviet foreign debts of $65 billion.

Critics have said Korea cannot afford to provide Moscow with such large amounts of financial assistance in view of the growing trade deficit.

Some have expressed concern that the Soviets may default on the loans.

The ruling party lawmaker asked the administration to "readjust" economic relations with the Soviet Union, saying that revolutionary changes have swept the Soviet Union, including the independence of three Baltic republics from the Soviet Union.

Rep. Yi Sang-hoe of the ruling party called for discontinuing Seoul's "beggar diplomacy" which he said is designed to court support form Third World countries.

The university professor-turned lawmaker urged that Seoul shut down its diplomatic missions in small African countries, now that the two Koreas have joined the United Nations.

Vice Foreign Minister Yu Chong-ha is to answer the queries by the two lawmakers today.

SOFA Agreement Discussed at National Assembly

SK1909093791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0902 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 19 (OANA-YONHAP)—The Foreign Ministry will open negotiations with the Justice Ministry on how to effectively handle criminal cases involving U.S. servicemen under the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), Vice Foreign Minister Yu Chong-ha testified Thursday.

He also told the National Assembly Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee that South Korea will treat North Korea as an independent state in international meetings, but internally will adhere to "one commonwealth" policy.

Barely 1 percent of crimes involving U.S. servicemen stationed here ever reach the South Korean courts, he said.

Of 1,180 criminal cases last year, only 13 were turned over to local courts. Of 847 cases between January and August this year, only nine were handed over.

"There were various difficulties within our court system in claiming criminal jurisdiction in these cases. We will negotiate with the Justice Ministry for more effective execution of the SOFA terms," Yu told the committee.

The SOFA agreement was signed in 1967 and modified in February to give Korea jurisdiction in crimes committed by American troops here.

Asked if South Korea recognizes North Korea as an independent state since their separate entry to the United Nations on Tuesday, Yu said Seoul firmly adheres to a "one commonwealth" policy for the two Koreas.

"We may treat it as an independent state in international fora, such as calling it by its name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, instead of North Korea," Yu said.

"But internally, we stand by our policy that Korea is one commonwealth," he told the committee.

Official: U.S. Embassy Facilities Should Move

SK1909071491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0701 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 19 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States have yet to iron out their differences on relocating U.S. Embassy facilities out of the U.S. Eighth Army base in Seoul and on sharing the cost of keeping U.S. forces in Korea, Vice Foreign Minister Yu Chong-ha said Thursday.

"Our government's basic position is that the embassy facilities, which cover 80,000 pyong (264,000 square meters) of the compound, should be moved at the time of the base's removal," Yu told the National Assembly Foreign Affairs and Reunification Committee.

The United States insists that removal of the Army base and housing for embassy staff are different matters.

As for burdensharing, the U.S. Administration wants Korea to pay half the "won-based cost," which it predicted would amount to 840 million U.S. dollars in 1995. The won-based cost is largely the salaries of Korean workers.

"A consensus has yet to be reached between the governments. Our government plans to set the rate of cost sharing, reflecting the gross national product and budget growth on the basis of the 1991 amount of 150 million dollars," Yu said.

The two countries agreed on July 19 to relocate the Army base from Yongsan compound, downtown Seoul, to Osan Air Base and Camp Humphreys in Pyongtaek on the outskirts of Seoul between 1996 and 1997.

The agreement covers only military facilities, however, and negotiations are under way between the Foreign Ministry and the United States on relocation of the three embassy facilities in the Yongsan compound.

The U.S. Embassy occupies nearly 80,000 pyong within the 923,000-pyong (3.045 million square meters) compound, which includes housing for embassy staff in South Post, the Embassy Club and transportation facilities.

* ROK-U.S. Wisemen's Association Formed

912C0285 Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean 21 Jul 91 pp 30-32

[Article by Yi Chung-sik: "Behind-the-Scenes Coordination of Pending Issues Including Trade Friction"]

[Text] A new, private organization that will hold behind-the-scenes discussions on pending ROK-U.S. issues such as trade policies, diplomatic and national security matters was founded on 9 July. The organization, the ROK-U.S. Wisemen's Association, which was founded through the efforts of the International Trade and Business Institute (ITBI) of Korea, whose chairman is former Trade Minister Kum Chin-ho, and the U.S. Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), will make recommendations directly to each nation's president.

Kum Chin-ho, chairman of ITBI, and Amos A. Jordan, deputy chairman of CSIS, participated in the ceremony for exchanging the mutual agreement in founding the Wisemen's Association that was held in the ITBI office of the East-West Stock Building in 76-5 Chongdam-dong, Kangnam-ku, Seoul, and confirmed the reinforcement of the private cooperation system between the two nations. The participation of Kim Chong-in, senior presidential secretary for economic affairs, in this meeting drew the people's attention.

The characteristics of this Association can be roughly predicted by analyzing the members. The current membership consists of five from each nation. The five Korean members are former Prime Minister Nam Tok-u, who is the honorory chairman of the Korea Trade Association; Cho Sun, former deputy prime minister; Yi Kon-hi, chairman of the Samsung Group; Choi Chong-hyon, chairman of the Sonkyong Group; and Ku Pyong-hwe, chairman of the Lucky Gold Star Group. The U.S. members are Frank Carlucci, former defense secretary; Zbigniew Brzezinski, former White House national security adviser; Warren Christopher, former deputy secretary of state; A.W. Clausen, former World Bank president; and David M. Roderick, co-chairman of the Korea-U.S. Business Council.

Kum Chin-ho, standing adviser of the Korea Trade Association, and Jordan, deputy chairman of the CSIS, were elected as the Association's secretaries general. The Korean members are chairmen of the leading conglomerates and former cabinet members. The U.S. members are high-ranking former government officials and business leaders. Kum said that "Among various issues that will be dealt by the Association, the major theme will be trade and diplomatic issues." In other words, when trade friction arises, the Korean members will try to find a way out by discussing the issue with U.S. members who have a strong influence inside and outside the government.

Among the members, those who have academic backgrounds are Cho Sun and Brzezinski. Carlucci and Christopher are known to be in charge of diplomatic and national security issues.

Major Role by Kum Chin-ho, Who Has Many Friends in Political and Business Circles in the United States

The men who played a major role in founding the Association are Kum and Jordan. Kum disclosed that "Mr. Jordan first suggested the idea of founding the Association last February." Kum is known to have many American friends in political and business circles and Jordan is one of them.

As the relationship between Korea and the United States enters into a form of a partnership, the two men agreed on the necessity of having a private association in order to cope dynamically with frequently arising economic, diplomatic, national security, and political issues. They agreed that "deadlocks should be resolved quickly."

In order to achieve this, it was felt that a private organization, rather than an official one at a government level, is necessary to discuss issues behind the scenes and to make recommendations directly to the top decision makers of the two nations.

From the U.S. side, CSIS, headquartered in Washington, D.C., initiated contacting people like Carlucci and succeeded in making them members of the Association. It is known that George Shultz, former secretary of state, declined the offer of membership by saying that "I am too busy right now but I will think about it next year."

From the Korean side, Kum initiated contacting potential members. He set up the qualifications for membership. Potential members should be former cabinet members or current heads of conglomerates; should be fluent in English in order to express their opinions without difficulty; and should have an international feel for economic matters. Yi Kon-hi, chairman of the Samsung Group, was contacted because of the importance of his image in the business circles. All of those who were contacted accepted the offer right away. Everybody said that "such a private channel should have been established long ago."

It took four months of preparation before the Association was formally founded. There had been a similar organization in the past. It was the Northeast Asian Association (NEAC). About 50 NEAC members of the political, bureaucratic, and business circles from Korea and the United States have been gathering and discussing various pending issues in the two nations. The NEAC has been active since 1981. The NEAC, however, has the characteristics of a friendship organization, whose major interests are in the mutual exchange of politicians and businessmen of the two nations. The U.S. partner was also CSIS.

The Wisemen's Association, on the other hand, consists of only heavyweight former politicians and businessmen and emphasizes mobility, secrecy, and efficiency.

There is a similar council in Japan. It is the "U.S.-Japan Economic Group," which was formerly the "Wisemen's Association." The membership of this Group consists of four former cabinet members from each nation.

The ROK-U.S. Wisemen's Association will meet twice a year, and ad hoc meetings can be held if necessary. The expenses of the meeting will be shared by the two nations. The first meeting will be held in Washington, D.C. in October 1991.

"We agreed that the meetings will be informal and not be open to the public. In other words, the meetings will be unofficial," said Kum. He also said that the meetings will be held in such an informal manner that free discussions will proceed without even neckties or nameplates on the table. It is important to create a relaxed and friendly atmosphere in order to have frank and serious discussions. That is why the membership was limited to only 10.

Strong Interest From Both Governments

Although the first meeting will be held in Washington, D.C., the follow-on meetings will be held in resort places such as Hawaii or Cheju Island, according to Kum. The meetings will generally be two days. The first day will be devoted to discussions and the next day will be for friendship promotion by playing golf or swimming. Kum also said that he has a plan for some research topics developed from the meeting to be jointly pursued by the ITBI and CSIS.

It is not yet known how much of a contribution the Wisemen's Association will make to resolving the pending issues between the two nations. Although the Association is purely private, the interest shown by the two nations is significant. It is known that the White House and Chongwadae helped found the Association. In selecting members, the White House was consulted by the CSIS and Chongwadae by the ITBI.

Kum disclosed that "I discussed the founding of the Association with Kim Chong-in, senior presidential secretary for economic affairs and Kim Chong-hwi, assistant to the president for security affairs and state policy." This is why Kim Chong-in was present at the ceremony for exchanging the mutual agreement. Furthermore, the fact that Kum is related to President No by marriage adds more weight to the importance of the Wisemen's Association.

Regarding the future activities of the Wisemen's Association, Kum said that "We will not limit our attention to microscopic matters such as trade friction. We will make macroscopic contributions to improve the relationship between the two nations by establishing a cooperation system and by improving comprehensive partnership."

Kim Tae-chung Defends Role of U.S. Forces

SK1809125591 Seoul YONHAP in English 1215 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Moscow, Sept. 18 (YONHAP)—South Korean opposition leader Kim Tae-chung said Wednesday the presence of U.S. troops in South Korea helps maintain balance of power in Northeast Asia and serves the national interests of the Soviet Union as well.

Delivering a speech at Moscow University, the top leader of the Democratic Party said the Seoul-Moscow reconciliation has caused the need to arise to reevaluate the merit of the American forces in Korea.

"A withdrawal of U.S. troops is feared to create a precarious vacuum in military power. Their continued stationing in Korea will ensure balance of power with regard to Japan and China, a great contribution to peace and security in Northeast Asia," Kim said. "Probably it will contribute to the Soviet interests as well."

He predicted changes in the Soviet Union would be an important lesson for socialist countries in Eastern Asia.

"North Korea is at the crossroads where it should decide whether to embrace democracy and advance to a market economy or resist the global trend and face a trial that will be critical to its destinies," he said.

"South Korea also faces a need to develop democracy and improve its capitalistic system further," Kim added.

Kim's meeting with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev slated in the afternoon was not realized due to Gorbachev's tight schedule. Rep. Cho Sun-sung said the meeting was being rearranged.

Kim arrived in Moscow Tuesday afternoon.

Soviet Presidential Adviser Renews Aid Request

SK1909061891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0542 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 19 (OANA-YONHAP)—Soviet presidential envoy Vadim Medvedev repeated Moscow's request for South Korea to deliver its 3 billion-U.S.-dollar aid package as planned in a speech here Thursday.

The aid would not only fulfill immediate needs but help long-term Seoul-Moscow relations, Medvedev told more than 100 economic leaders at a breakfast arranged by the Korea-Soviet Economic Committee.

There was room for Korean and other foreign businesses in the Soviet oil refining industry, and Moscow was doing its best to provide favorable conditions for foreign investment, he said.

Medvedev, presidential adviser for economic affairs, arrived on Monday with a personal letter from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to Korean President No Tae-u. He made similar requests regarding aid when he met with No on Tuesday to hand over the letter.

Korea delivered a 500 million-dollar loan earlier this year, and plans call for an additional 500 million-dollar loan by end of September and 800 million dollars in tied loans this year.

The central government was still in charge of external economic affairs despite last month's failed coup, Medvedev said. The coup had unearthed the difficulties within the Soviet Union, but its failure removed the reactionary forces from the country, he said.

Further Aid Talks Scheduled

SK1809115491 Seoul YONHAP in English 1007 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 18 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the Soviet Union agreed Wednesday to have a round of working-level talks next month to discuss when and how to carry out 3 billion-U.S.-dollar economic aid program pledged by Seoul earlier this year.

It was agreed during a courtesy call of Soviet Presidential Advisor Vadim Medvedev on Deputy Prime Minister Choe Kak-kyu, in which the Soviet envoy called for a punctual implementation of the program.

This year alone, South Korea is to offer an 800 million-dollar loan tied to consumer goods purchase and 1 billion-dollar cash loan. Seoul has already offered a 500 million-dollar cash loan, just half of the amount due this year.

Choe called on the need to have the working-level negotiations, saying, "Bankers here are watching the situation in the Soviet Union with an air of concern and skepticism."

Choe, however, said, "The government is firmly determined to carry out the economic cooperation plan as scheduled."

Medvedev explained in detail the situation in his country and said that a close cooperation is being maintained between the union government and those of the affiliated republics.

Medvedev also visited Finance Minister Yi Yong-man at his office.

USSR Offers Okhotsk Fishing Rights to Seoul

SK1909063291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0245 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 19 (OANA-YONHAP)—The Soviet Union has offered to let South Korean ships catch between 200,000 tons and 300,000 tons of fish a year from the sea of Okhotsk, an official at the Korea Maritime and Port Administration said Thursday.

The proposal came in follow-up talks between working-level officials in Moscow after they signed a fisheries pact Monday [16 Septmember], he said.

Okhotsk is a section of the Pacific Ocean between Kamchatka and the Kuril Islands.

The Soviets also suggested Korea, the Soviet Union and Japan form a private consultative body of fishermen to ensure safe operation in the East Sea adjoining Japan.

Korea is uncommitted to these proposals and plans to discuss details when the Korea-Soviet Joint Fisheries Committee meets in Seoul in November, he said.

The Korean officials in Moscow also agreed with their Soviet counterparts to send officials to the far eastern port city of Vladivostok for similar talks during an international fisheries symposium Oct. 14-18.

Foreign Minister Meets Ukrainian Counterpart

SK1909014791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0119 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] United Nations, Sept. 18 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the Ukraine agreed Wednesday [18 September] in talks between their foreign ministers at the United Nations to promote bilateral economic cooperation, a Korean official said.

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko asked his Korean counterpart Yi Sang-ok to encourage Korean companies to invest in his country, and Yi said he would find ways to cooperate after he returned home.

Zlenko said his nation wants to enhance cooperation with Korea in the field of video cassette recorders and microwave ovens.

Yi will fly to Seattle, Washington, to greet President No Tae-u and escort him to New York to address the U.N. General Assembly on Sept. 24. South and North Korea were formally admitted to the world body on Sept. 17.

Seoul Considers Improved Relations With SRV

SK1909063091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0547 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 19 (YONHAP)—South Korea is mulling over plans to improve relations with communist Vietnam step by step while closely watching settlement of the Cambodian conflict, the Foreign Ministry said Thursday in a report to the National Assembly.

South Korea has kept a distance with Vietnam in compliance of requests by allies such as the United States that it keep pace with them. Vietnam is thought to have asked the Korean Government to restore diplomatic ties on several occasions.

Bilateral trade amounted to 76 million U.S. dollars in 1988, when Vietnam took part in the Seoul Olympics, and expanded to 87 million dollars in 1989 and 135 million dollars last year. In the first quarter of this year, 54 million dollars of goods were traded, the report said.

A total of 265 people from both nations visited the other territory in 1988, 1,088 in 1989, 1,867 last year and 2,185 as the end of may this year, it said.

Kim Yong-sam Meets Japanese Prime Minister

SK1809131591 Seoul YONHAP in English 1244 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 18 (YONHAP)—Democratic Liberal Party Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam on Wednesday met with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and exchanged views on both Koreas' simultaneous admission to the United Nations, normalization talks between Japan and North Korea and other matters of mutual concern.

Kim thanked the Japanese Government for its cooperation and support to South Korea's long-held bid to realize two Koreas' simultaneous entry into the United Nations. Kaifu hailed the Korean membership in the world body as "a historic event."

During the 30-minute talks, Kim called for Tokyo's cautious steps toward rapprochement with Pyongyang and efforts to redress bulging trade imbalance in favor of Japan.

Kim asked the Japanese Government, in talks with North Korea, to abide by the five principles agreed on with President No Tae-u in January during Kaifu's visit to Seoul.

Kaifu said the Pyongyang-Tokyo talks had been impeded by disputes over the alleged abduction by North Korea of a Japanese women. He added the both sides are still at odds with each other over the issue.

The abduction case became a thorny issue between Tokyo and Pyongyang ever since Kim Hyun-hui, a north Korean saboteur who planted bombs in a South Korean international jetliner in 1987, revealed that she was taught in Japanese language by a Japanese woman who had been brought to North Korea against her will.

Kaifu told Kim that there was no progress in discussions over Japan's demand for outside inspection of North Korean nuclear facilities, another prerequisite for Pyongyang-Tokyo reconcilation.

Japan's UN Peacekeeping Operations Discussed

SK1909094491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0907 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 19 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea expressed concern Thursday over Japan's move to send troops overseas on U.N. peacekeeping operations.

Korea did not in principle oppose Japan's attempts to assume a role comparable to its economic power and contribute to world peacekeeping efforts, a Foreign Ministry statement said.

"As a country that remembers the unfortunate past, we cannot but express concern at Japan's dispatch of self-defense troops, which carries the possibility of use of force in the future," an official said.

Korea was under Japanese colonial rule between 1910 and 1945.

Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party is preparing to send legislation to parliament next week to send troops overseas under the United Nations.

South May Appeal North's Nuclear Accord Refusal

SK1909062191 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 14 Sep 91 p 1

[Text] It was learned on 14 September that, because North Korea expressed on 13 September its intention to refuse signing the nuclear safeguards accord, the ROK Government is considering a plan to take this issue to the United Nations.

A high-ranking government official said on 14 September: "If North Korea continuously postpones the signing, we will have no alternative but to take this issue to the United Nations for discussion." He also said: "The government is considering a plan to have the Political, Military, and Security Committee, the first committee of the UN General Assembly, discuss this issue first and then adopt a resolution urging North Korea to sign the accord on our country's motion alone or on the joint motion of some member countries."

He also said: "Previously, the ROK could not present a resolution to the General Assembly because it was not a UN member." He also said: "Because both North and South Korea entered the United Nations and automatically became members of the first committee, we can present resolutions."

He also said: "We can take the issue of North Korea's signing of the accord to the Security Council. However, we are not considering such a plan for now." He added: "If North Korea refuses to the end to sign the accord, we cannot exclude from our consideration a plan to have the Security Council adopt a pertinent agenda and pass a resolution to that effect.

Firm To Engage in Barter Trade With North

SK1909015991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0110 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 19 (YONHAP)—South Korea will export to North Korea 3,000 color television sets and tons of sugar and seasonings with certificates of origin late next month, business sources said Thursday.

Samsung Co. would exchange the 19-inch television sets and other items for 3,000 tons of iron slab, they said.

It will be the first time that South Korean products have been exported to North Korea with certificates of origin since Korea's division 46 years ago.

The Lucky-Goldstar, Kolon and Ssangyong groups are also seeking a limited form of barter with North Korea, the sources said. These groups plan to import timber and iron products from North Korea, paying with cash or electronic products.

Contracts on these exchanges usually have third-country agents, but these swaps are virtually direct deals between traders on either side of the divided peninsula, the sources said.

North Korean-produced iron slab is between 300 U.S. dollars and 310 dollars a ton, and the South Korean-made televisions are 200 dollars each.

Shipment will be made from the South Korean port of Inchon to the northern port of Chongjin and Soviet or Chinese ships are likely to be used, the sources said.

Samsung Co. imported 3,000 tons of iron slab for 250 dollars a ton in May. It also plans to import 3,000 to 3,500 tons of slab from the North in early October in addition to the barter, paying in U.S. dollars.

The sources said the contracts were signed by traders in the two Koreas via agents in Hong Kong and Japan. Such North Korean ports as Chongjin, Najin and Songnim are used for inter-Korean trade, and the South uses Inchon and Pusan.

Student Leaders Detained on Way to Panmunjom

SK1909020091 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 19 Sep 91 p 3

[From the "Local News Briefs" column]

[Text] Representatives of the student bodies of Korea and Yonsei Universities were detained Tuesday by police while en route to the border village of Panmunjom where they were scheduled to meet their northern counterparts to discuss their participation in the annual campus festival.

O Sok-kun, 22, business administration senior of Korea University, and about 10 other students were taken by police in Paju on their way to Panmunjom.

The student bodies of the two private institutions had earlier officially invited more than 400 college students from North Korea to their festival. The National Unification Board, however, has yet to approve their plan to contact their northern counterparts, citing procedural matters.

* Editorial on Chondaehyop's Recent Activities

912C0264A Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 29 Jun 91 p 2

[Editorial: "Chondaehyop Helps Anti-U.S. Unification Movement"]

[Text] Two college students who left the country to attend an international conference on nuclear issues and the "Great Festival for the Reunification of the Fatherland" in Pyongyang are said to be in Berlin at the present time. Furthermore, an incident arose where some 500 college students connected with Namchongnyon [expansion unknown] attacked the U.S. Cultural Center in Kwangju and attempted to occupy it. The Namchongnyon is known as an organization subordinate to Chondaehyop, and at the critical moment it will display vividly the real state of the anti-U.S. fatherland reunification struggle zealously pushed by Chondaehyop, the organization at the core of the student movement. We remember the disturbances at home and abroad which were caused by Yim Su-kyong's participation in the Pyongyang Youth Festival the year before last. Her actions incited North Korea's phony reunification logic and provided no help whatsoever in the actual reunification process.

It is well known that the anti-U.S. independence struggle and the fatherland reunification struggle are both included as struggle goals of the fifth term of Chondaehyop in 1991. It is obvious that the attempts of the two college students to travel to Pyongyang and the attack on the U.S. Cultural Center in Kwangju are actions designed to solidify these struggle goals; however, first we want to point out how unrealistic and illogical the student's intentions really are. To summarize, we can expect that the reunification effort will be effective by substantive exchange and cooperation between both sides and improvement in the international environment. The South-North Korean athletic exchanges last year put it on the right track, and 70 million hearts were fired up when several South-North music festivals were held in Seoul, Pyongyang, and in Japan. With the rice trade issue now approaching the implementation stage, the trend is for South-North Korean trade to gradually increase in volume.

This is the product of the unified desire for reunification founded on the patience and self-control of our government and all the citizens, and the results have followed from North Korea's albeit somewhat limited response to this. Accordingly, the reunification movement, wherever it may be, must be preceded by an increase in cooperation for mutual exchange and understanding founded on substance; incitement of an emotional reunification zeal by itself does not become a sincere reunification movement. In any area, South-North exchange must depend on the assistance and cooperation of the government acting in moderation, and it is only proper the exchanges between the "voices of the people" be regulated. To the extent that the government's position is that Chondaehyop's exchange of students for nonpolitical purposes has been approved, the fact that South-North student exchange was pursued without advance consultation or cooperation of the government makes it difficult to believe that their conduct was fair and proper.

The attack on the U.S. Cultural Center in Kwangju is a part of Chondaehyop's anti-U.S. independence struggle, but this predates and puts limitations on ROK-U.S. relations via the "imperialist occupation" ideology. We want to say that this is an unrealistic way of thinking. Today the United States politically is our partner in security cooperation, and economically it is the largest consumer of our products. Furthermore, more of our overseas compatriots live there than anywhere else. President No Tae-u went to the United States and pressure continued for liberalization of our agricultural goods market, but nowadays, the United States is not out to either conquer or overthrow us. We want to ask Chondaehyop what practical benefit will return to us when U.S. organizations in Korea are attacked to incite the anti-American sentiment of the nation's citizens.

Another thing we want to ask Chondaehyop is to cease from radical struggle activities that are anti-U.S. in nature, and instead go forward with a sincere social reform movement. The question facing the people today is that reunification must be achieved in our era, and it is true that independence has become the foundation of promises for the people's pride and their future happiness, but in any area this depends on doubling our capacity, and that capacity has been obtained not through radical movements but by efforts made for ceaseless reform and initiative.

Also, we must not forget that we do have a tough and crafty enemy called North Korea. In order to achieve peace and friendship with North Korea, the urgent priority as a first stage is to eliminate the emnity it has toward us and replace it with trust. Restraint and patience are needed to achieve frank dialogue and exchange, which will start with Chondaehyop having to understand the reunification movement and the independence movement of today's citizens.

Opposition Demands Punishment in Student's Death

SK1909022791 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 19 Sep 91 pp 2, 3

[Text] The gunshot killing Tuesday of a student by police appears to be developing into a hot political issue, with the opposition vowing to launch a probe in the ongoing parliamentary session.

The Democratic Party, the newly merged opposition group, called the incident a violent act of law-enforcement authorities and demanded stern punishment of officers involved.

The ruling Democratic Liberal Party and the government held a series of meetings respectively to deal with the student's death.

"It is an unavoidable result of the government's abuse of its law-enforcement authority," said opposition spokesman No Mu-hyon, while comparing the incident to the fatal police beating of a student last April.

He said his party will exert all-out efforts to establish the facts regarding the incident during the ongoing parliamentary inspection of government ministries and agencies.

The opposition party formed its own fact-finding mission headed by Rep. Cho Chan-hyong.

Some opposition lawmakers alleged that the death of 27-year-old Han Kuk-won, a Seoul National University graduate student, is similar in nature to the fatal police beating of Kang Kyong-tae, a Mongji University student.

Han was hit in the chest with a bullet fired by a police officer, who alleged that it was a warning shot to help disperse demonstrating students.

Government and ruling party officials said Han's death is different from the previous police killing of a student, noting that the police officer fired as a means of self-defense against protesters attempting to storm the police substation.

Kang's death at the hands of riot policemen in April triggered weeks of nationwide student protests. Amidst the controversy over the death, President No Tae-u dismissed Prime Minister No Chae-Pong and Home Minister An Eung-mo.

Rep. Yi Ki-taek, who heads the largest opposition party with Kim Tae-chung, called an emergency meeting of key party officials to discuss steps to cope with the latest student death by police.

They decided to carry out an intensive parliamentary probe into the case at the National Assembly Home Affairs Committee. For the probe, they agreed to call off the committee's scheduled inspection of provincial government organizations.

Ruling party lawmakers, meanwhile, tried to minimize the political impact of the incident.

"Our party feels deep regret over the unfortunate incident," said party Secretary-General Kim Yun-hwan, after presiding over a meeting to deal with the case.

He also said the party will urge the government to investigate the incident thoroughly and to take steps to prevent similar incidents.

Party Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam also expressed regret before leaving on a trip to Tokyo and New York.

"I called the home minister this morning and called on him to look into the case thoroughly and announce the results of the investigation to the people at an early date," he said.

Prime Minister Chong Won-sik, received a report on the incident by Home Minister Yi Sang-yon and instructed Yi to take necessary steps, including a speedy investigation.

Presidential Chief of Staff Chong Hae-chang also discussed the incident with pertinent ministers, including the home, justice and education ministers.

Autopsy Scheduled

SK1909022191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0151 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 19 (YONHAP)—An autopsy will be performed Thursday afternoon on Han Kuk-won, the passer-by killed by a stray bullet during a demonstration Tuesday [17 September], but the result is unlikely to end a growing protest charging the police with Han's murder.

Han's family agreed to an autopsy after meeting with officials from Seoul National University, where he was studying for a doctorate. Protesters guarding Han's body fiercely opposed an autopsy, but relented after hours of persuasion and the body was moved to Seoul National University hospital.

The prosecution tried to perform an autopsy when Han's body arrived at the university hospital, but delayed at the request of his family.

The 27-year-old graduate student was pronounced dead on arrival at a nearby hospital. A bullet entered his heart while he and his wife were passing by a demonstration near his campus in southwestern Seoul late Tuesday night.

The bullet was traced to Lt. Cho Tong-pu of Shillim-dong police box, who fired six live rounds with his 0.38-caliber revolver to disperse students attacking the police box with firebombs.

The students were opposing location of a police station nearer their campus.

Han was some 100 meters from the police box when he was shot.

Serious questions are being raised about whether the police were acting in self-defense, and whether Lt. Cho fired in the air or aimed at the protesters.

"I am overcome with grief and shock," Seoul National University President Kim Chong-un said. "I plead with the students and the authorities to do their best to prevent a recurrence of this tragedy."

The incident sparked immediate campus protests. More than 2,000 students gathered for a rally demanding that President No Tae-u apologize for the tragedy and punish the police officers and chiefs. Nearly 5,000 members of the student associations of Seoul universities held another rally in the evening.

Frequency of Firearms Use by Police Reported

SK1909015691 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 19 Sep 91 p 3

[From the "Local News Briefs" Column]

[Text] On-duty police officers have used firearms on 113 occasions this year, national police said yesterday.

The National Police Administration said officers used firearms to arrest suspects or criminals in 70 of the 113 cases.

Officers depended on the use of force for breaking up demonstrators' attacks on police facilities in another 29 cases.

Ministry Plans Changes in Development Agency

SK1909034891 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 19 Sep 91 p 3

[Text] The Defense Ministry has decided to reorganize the Agency for Defense and Development (ADD) within the year to efficiently forge ahead with systematic development of the arms industry.

Located at Taejon, Chungchongnamto, the research institute has been engaged in development of weapons and military equipment since August 1970.

According to the full-scale shake-down plan worked out by the ministry, the agency will turn over to major defense contractors four research and development centers dealing with arms and equipment for the Army, Navy and Air Force.

The agency will instead concentrate on development of strategic weapons, "core" defense technologies and parts and components, managing the arms industrial companies, which take over the role of the four R & D [research and development] centers.

Under the reorganization scheme, the ministry plans to set up in the agency test and quality-control centers to help develop scientific tests of the newly-developed weapons systems and upgrade their qualities.

The ministry said that it would also establish an information center dealing with defense technology and a support organization for the agency.

The agency will manage only two R & D centers—one in development of guided weapons and the other in overall defense technology, covering electronics, optical science, new materials and software fields.

The ministry also plans to increase the number of the ADD research fellows and management personnel from 2,500 to 4,000 by 2000.

Meanwhile, the ministry is considering expanding the agency to the "Military Procurement Office."

No Presides Over Economic Planning Meeting

SK1909062991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0526 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 19 (YONHAP)—The government would lower economic growth rate to between 8 percent and 8.5 percent in the second half of the year and reduce the trade deficit to less than 7.7 billion dollars, Deputy Prime Minister Choe Kak-kyu said Thursday.

Total money supply growth in the last quarter would be frozen at 18.4 percent, the average for the first eight months of the year, Choe, who is also economic planning minister, told a meeting of economic ministers presided over by President No Tae-u.

To increase savings, first-phase liberalization of interest rates will be implemented this year and the ceiling on certificates of deposit issued by city banks will be lifted to over 60 percent of the banks' capital.

Under the Finance Ministry's four-stage plan, interest rates will be freed during the first phase on bank overdrafts, loans with maturities of less than 20 days, discounts on commercial papers, excluding those eligible for central bank rediscount, discounts on corporate and trade bills by short-term finance firms and overdue loans.

Choe said tax favors for less than 8 million won in household savings would be expanded to 12 million won.

Tax is not levied on monthly savings of 300,000 won for salaried workers, and tax-free savings would be increased to 500,000 won a month, the deputy premier said.

The meeting was attended by the finance, agriculture, forestry and fisheries, trade and industry and construction ministers.

No urged the ministers to steadily practice short- and long-term plans to solve economic problems.

To make the manufacturing industry more competitive, efforts should be made to renovate technology and improve quality, he said.

Employers should seek reconciliation with labor to enhance productivity and the government should correct wrong practices and systems in workshops to establish sound industrial relations, No said.

Korea's current account deficit hit 7.04 billion dollars at the end of July, a sevenfold rise from 1.04 billion dollars in the same seven months last year.

The trade deficit is expected to top 10 billion dollars on a customs clearance basis this month, up from the year's high of 9.8 billion dollars in the middle of August.

Choe said recent price hikes and the international balance of payments deficit reflected structural problems, but major indexes foretold a recovery.

To stabilize the economy, he said, the government would emphasize controlling the total money supply, cooling domestic demand, encouraging saving, expediting localization of machinery and parts, making effective use of financial incentives, and bolstering the competitiveness of exports.

Retail price rises would be held at less than 10 percent and government workers would get a 9.8-percent pay hike instead of the promised 12 percent, the chief economic policy-maker said.

Tax audits will be stepped up into people who lead lives of luxury without a clear source of income and businessmen will be required to use credit cards for 40 percent or more of their expense account spending, up from 35 percent, from January 1992.

The government will control lending by banks, investment trust companies and other financial institutions to non-manufacturing firms. Also under control will be credit card company loans and car sales on installment.

To curb imports of machinery and parts, foreign currency leases and issuance of stocks overseas will be restricted. To back up manufacturing firms, the government will work out a second-phase localization plan this year under which financial support will be given to development of machinery, parts and materials by the Korea Development and Korea Industry Banks.

To reduce the snowballing trade deficit with Japan, the government will make efforts to exploit items that will have an edge in the Japanese market and will invigorate the localization of items that are imported from Japan.

Korea's trade deficit with Japan was 4.577 billion dollars in the first half of the year, up 1.685 billion dollars from the same period last year.

To prevent excessive and duplicated investment by private enterprises, the government will let them carry out large-scale investment projects only after close consultation with related ministries, the Private Council for Industrial Development and Banks.

State-Run Firm Accused of Environmental Damage

SK1909035191 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 19 Sep 91 p 8

[Text] The Korea Water Resources Corp. (KWRC) has done little to hold environment damages in check while carrying out a variety of development projects.

In some cases, the state-run company has failed to undergo environment impact assessments, which are deemed obligatory in implementing development projects.

This was revealed in a report submitted to the National Assembly by the corporation yesterday.

The corporation, while pushing for the development of an industrial complex in Sihung, Kyonggi-to, had promised to secure its own disposal sites of industrial wastes during its policy negotiations with the Environment Ministry but did not put it into practice in the course of development procedures.

While the complex is set to enter into a full-scale operation next December, a sewage disposal plant for the complex will likely be completed in November 1993 belatedly, according to the report.

Officials said the delay of the plant construction will cause serious environmental contamination in nearby shores.

The state-run company also neglected its duty of making periodic examinations of water pollution in the collection sites of sand and pebbles, raising concerns over the management of tap water, it said.

The report revealed that KWRC also failed to receive an environment impact assessment while carrying out its development project of Ansan, some 40 kilometers southwest of Seoul.

Promotions in Trade Body, Naval Staff Reported

SK1909064491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0037 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 19 (YONHAP)—Kim Chol-su, 50, commissioner of the Korea Industrial Property Office, was named president of the Korea Trade [Kotra] Promotion Corp. Wednesday. Kim replaces Yi Sun-ki as the head of Kotra.

The government also promoted Rear Adm. Kim Manchong, 52, chief of staff in Naval Supplies and Logistics, to vice admiral and named him to be vice chief of naval operations Wednesday.

Burma

Council Appoints Ohn Gyaw Foreign Minister

BK1809143391 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 18 Sep 91

["Notification No. 1/91 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council of the Union of Myanmar, dated 18 September 1991"]

[Text] For the purpose of adding dynamism to and achieving greater success in pursuing the independent and active foreign policy of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], the State Law and Order Restoration Council has, effective today, designated U Ohn Gyaw [deputy minister of foreign affairs] to assume the responsibilities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs which had been under the charge of Senior General Saw Maung.

By the powers vested in me.

Signed: Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1, State Law and Order Restoration Council.

Commander Threatens To Wipe Out Capitalists

BK1809113391 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Excerpts] Major General Myo Nyunt, chairman of Yangon [Rangoon] Law and Order Restoration Council [YLORC] and commander of Yangon, accompanied by U Tun Tin, member of YLORC; Lieutenant Colonel Thaik Tun, commander first grade from the Yangon Military Command; Lt. Col. Myo Tint, chairman of Hanthawaddy Township Zone Law and Order Restoration Council; Nyunt Soe, deputy police director of the 7th Divisional Unit; and responsible officials, visited the 70th Infantry Regiment this morning and inspected agricultural projects in Twante Division this afternoon and gave necessary instructions. [passage omitted]

The commander met with officers, soldiers, and their families in Bayinaung Hall of the regiment. Speaking at the meeting, Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt said tomorrow—18 September—is the third anniversary of the assumption of state power by the Defense Services. He said such dates are important in the history of the Defense Services. [passage omitted]

He said Sein Win, leader of the parallel government in the jungle, although a son of U Ba Win, a martyr who was assassinated in an imperialist conspiracy, has no regard for his father's prestige in kneeling and begging before the imperialists. He said it is a very despicable act. He said the members of the Defense Services should be aware that the imperialists have never given assistance without calculating their own interests. He said if the country's sovereignty is infringed upon, the country's Army, Air Force, and Navy will defend in unison the country as they have defended before, are defending at present, and will defend in the future. They will retaliate against any military as well as economic offensive. He added that it will be necessary to successfully implement the instruction of General Than Shwe, vice commander in chief of the Defense Services and commander in chief of the Army, who had declared 1992 the year of the economy based on agriculture and livestock breeding.

Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt said the Defense Services have contributed to the country's economy by upholding the mottos; producing goods while fighting, and fighting while producing goods in time of war; and producing goods while training, and training while producing goods in time of peace. The government is taking measures to stabilize and reduce commodity prices. There have been ancient words of wisdom regarding the need to contain greed in trade. [passage omitted] They are not something new invented in the time of the State Law and Order Restoration Council.

At present the capitalists are once again rearing their heads. If they cannot be controlled, the capitalists [Ayinn-Shin] must be wiped out first [Ayin Shinn, wordplay in vernacular with Ayinn-Shin].

Speaking on in-service unity, Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt said members of the defenses who are constructing national unity must remain steadfastly united, and it is necessary for them not to be confused by divisive tactics and instigations by destructive elements. [passage omitted]

Brunei, Malaysia, & Singapore

Malaysia

Minister Offers Burma Assistance

BK1909101291 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0738 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sept 19 (OANA/BERNAMA)—Malaysia is ready to help Myanmar [Burma] privatise its public agencies if it so desires, Energy, Telecommunications and Posts Minister S. Samy Vellu said Thursday.

Malaysia was making the offer in view of its experience in privatisation of government agencies such as the national electricity board and the telecommunications services, he said.

He was speaking to reporters after receiving the visiting Myanmar Minister of Energy and Mines Rear Admiral Maung Khin at his office here. Rear Admiral Maung Khin is also the commander of the Myanmar Navy.

Malaysia was ready to invest in such projects and provide related service, Samy Vellu said.

Expressing interest in such privatisation, Rear Admiral Khin said he would seek more information on the matter as well as copies of the privatisation bills passed by parliament for his perusal.

At present all public utility agencies were under government control in Myanmar.

Samy Vellu said he was ready to visit Myanmar if necessary to provide more information on the privatisation of its agencies.

Mahathir on North America Free Trade Area

BK1809111491 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 1009 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Mexico City, Sept 18 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Although the actual form of the North America free trade area (NAFTA) is not yet known, it was clear that goods made in Mexico could enter the U.S. and Canadian markets tariff-free or on special tariffs, Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said here Wednesday.

The proposed NAFTA comprising the United States, Canada, and Mexico with a combined market of 330 million people, has caused concern among developing countries that it might affect their exports.

Dr. Mahathir, however, believed if other countries wished to manufacture goods in Mexico to penetrate the rich U.S. and Canadian markets, they would have to meet certain conditions, like local content.

The percentage of local content has not been decided yet.

He made the remarks to Malaysian journalists when asked to comment on the possible effects on Malaysia with the creation of the North America free trade area by 1993.

The prime minister, who arrived here Tuesday for a six-day official visit, held talks with President Carlos Salinas at the presidential residence "Los Pinas" in the afternoon.

The four-eyed meeting focused on efforts to enhance bilateral economic cooperation, South-South cooperation, and matters concerning NAFTA.

The formation of NAFTA would, to a certain extent, affect Malaysia's exports to the U.S. and Canada because it would have to compete with Mexico, especially for common goods.

Dr. Mahathir cited as an example radio sets produced in Malaysia with Japanese investment but for export to the U.S. and Canada.

"Perhaps, the Japanese investors may come to Mexico to manufacture the same product for export to the U.S. and this will create competition," he added.

However, the prime minister said there was the risk of competition from not only Mexico but also other countries like the East European nations which had become a converging point for investors.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and his Mexican counterpart, Fernando Salana, led their respective delegations in talks at the same venue.

Abdullah later told Malaysian journalists that Mexico had given the assurance that it would not support NAFTA taking a protectionist policy.

Mexico said that, like Malaysia, it adhered to the principle of free trade and open market.

The two sides agreed to take steps to enhance economic cooperation and trade ties.

Director Recommends Flights to South Africa

MB1809180691 Johannesburg South African Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1600 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Malaysia Airlines wants to introduce flights to South Africa.

Managing Director (Abdul Ramon) told a news conference in Kuala Lumpur that he would recommend to the Malaysian Government that it lift the ban on travelling to South Africa.

This follows a decision yesterday by the Commonwealth Foreign Minister's Committee on Africa which recommended lifting the ban on people to people relations between Commonwealth countries and South Africa.

Investment Mission To Leave for East Asia

BK1809142691 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1400 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Singapore and Indonesia are jointly organizing an investment promotion mission for the Riau Province. The week-long mission to Hong Kong, Taiwan, and South Korea starts on Friday. Seminars will be conducted to familiarize potential investors with the growth triangle concept. They will be informed of [words indistinct] and steps taken by the Singapore and Indonesian governments to attract investors to the Riau-Singapore region.

The mission will be led by the senior minister of state for trade and industry, Mr. Lim Boon Heng, and the Indonesian junior minister for industry, Mr. Tungky Ariwibowo.

Cambodia

Phnom Penh Reports on SNC Delegation at UN

BK1909060291 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 19 Sep 91

["Report on Cambodia's Supreme National Council Attending the 46th Session of the UN General Assembly"]

[Excerpt] This is the first time since the Cambodian conflict started in 1979 that the Cambodian seat in the United Nations has been occupied by the Cambodian

Supreme National Council [SNC]. The SNC represents Cambodia's national union. The most important significance is that this is the first time that the SNC members representing the State of Cambodia's government—namely, His Excellency Hun Sen and His Excellency Hor Namhong, have attended the UN General Assembly [UNGA].

On 17 September 1991, Cambodian SNC members and their advisers attended the opening session of the 46th UNGA, which started at 1030, New York time.

[passage omitted]

Sihanouk Reaffirms Stance as 'Neutral Leader'

BK1909050491 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0421 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK September 19—I am a neutral leader of Cambodia now, said Prince Norodom Sihanouk in an open letter released to the press in New York on September 16.

Sihanouk, who is head of the delegation of the Supreme National Council (SNC) of Cambodia to the current 46th UN General Assembly in New York, said: "As I am now president of the SNC of Cambodia, I, Norodom Sihanouk, has no political party and stand neutral, not belonging to any party, faction or political movement in Cambodia."

He declared that FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] is a political party belonging to Norodom Ranariddh, but not to him as he is now neutral leader of Cambodia.

Spokesman Denies Army Recruiting Children

BK1909060191 Hong Kong AFP in English 0533 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Sept 19 (AFP)—Phnom Penh rejected Thursday accusations that it was recruiting children to swell the ranks of its army before United Nations oberservers move in to monitor demobilization.

Cambodian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Hor Sothoun also warned that the resistance factions could derail the peace process with inflated claims of their own troop strengths.

"It's a maneuver" designed to influence Cambodia peace talks scheduled to begin Friday at the United Nations General Assembly in New York, Hor Sothoun said of the child soldier accusation levelled Tuesday by the Khmer Rouge, the most powerful resistance faction.

"We don't have the capacity to expand. What we have is enough," he said. "The Khmer Rouge are always making baseless accusations without any independent confirmation or proof."

Hor Sothoun charged that the resistance factions, especially the one loyal to former premier Son Sann, were grossly exaggerating their troop strength ahead of the 70 percent demobilization agreed upon by the warring factions last month.

"This could be a new obstacle" at the peace talks in New York, where diplomats were hoping that deciding on an electoral system for Cambodia would be the last remaing obstacle in the path of a Cambodian peace settlement, he said.

The Khmer Rouge is claiming 40,000 troops, Son Sann's faction is claiming 42,000, and forces loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk are claiming 18,000 men under arms.

Independent intelligence estimates, however, put the Khmer Rouge forces at 13,000-22,000, Son Sann's forces at no more than 4,000 and the Sihanoukists around 5,000.

"How do you reduce the number of troops by 70 percent if Son Sann first multiplies by ten," Hor Sothoun said of the former premier, whose non-communist faction has received support from the United States. "Son Sann represents nothing militarily or politically."

Hor Sothoun said Phnom Penh had about 155,000 regional troops and 50,000 regular troops.

The Phnom Penh government was installed in January 1979 by Vietnamese forces who invaded to oust the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge from power.

Article Views Prospects for Post-War Development

BK1909023291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0205 GMT 19 Sep 91

[By Robert Birsel]

[Text] Yeang Dangkum, Cambodia, Sept 19 (AFP)—No villagers have lived here since the Khmer Rouge marched them off to work on some irrigation project, but as Cambodia moves towards peace hopes are rising that normal life will return to this war-ravaged frontline.

"The war is over, now is the time for development," says guerrilla commander General Lay Vireak, who is in charge in this northwestern region of Cambodia.

Lay Vireak, a member of the non-communist Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), plans to open up and develop this area, initially for his soldiers and their families, most of whom are now in Site Two refugee camp over the border in Thailand.

Almost two years after this village's original inhabitants left, Vietnamese forces invaded Cambodia and drove the Khmer Rouge from power.

For the next decade the village was on the frontline as the Phnom Penh Government and its Vietnamese allies battled the Khmer Rouge and their two reluctant non-communist guerrilla partners.

Rusty ammunition clips litter the ground along with other war debris, while a concrete bunker, built by the Vietnamese, sits crumbling and overgrown on the edge of the abandoned village.

Above the bunker runs a huge earthern rampart, slowly eroding in the rain.

The rampart was built by thousands of conscripted Cambodians in an ultimately unsuccessful attempt to keep the guerrillas bottled up on the nearby border with Thailand.

KPNLF guerrillas captured the village in an offensive in late 1989, a few weeks after Vietnamese troops withdrew from Cambodia.

Lay Vireak, whose father was a teacher at the local school, was born here 38 years ago.

After 12 years as a soldier, the guerrilla commander is now preparing for peace. His primary concern is the welfare of his soldiers and their families.

The four Cambodian factions agreed at peace talks in Thailand last month to demobilise 70 percent of their forces and place the remaining 30 percent under U.N. supervision.

"We have been fighting together for more than ten years, I can't just throw them away," Lay Vireak says of the men under his command.

Lay Vireak wants to give his soldiers land to farm and to offer them training in basic skills such as truck driving and mechanics.

After more than a decade of war mistrust runs deep in Cambodia.

For this reason, many soldiers in the village say that following a peace treaty they want to remain here to see what happens before returning to their former homes deeper inside the country.

"I will stay here and see what happens in the election. If everything is OK I will go back," said one young KPNLF officer from Phnom Penh, referring to U.N.-supervised polls scheduled for 1992 which are part of the peace plan.

Former inhabitants of the village, many of them Lay Vireak's relatives and former neighbours, want to come back to their farms but the general says they must wait until land mines are cleared and more land is ready for farming.

He proudly shows off a huge expanse of rice fields which his soldiers have planted.

"Last year we were fighting and had no time to plant rice. This year we've had more time," he says.

A ceasefire has been in force in Cambodia, though not without violations, since May 1.

Although peace may be imminent, the soldiers here have not started celebrating just yet. Guerrillas on the front-line just north of the Phnom Penh government-held Route Five still keep a careful watch on their adversaries, a few kilometres (miles) across the waterlogged plain.

"The war is not over yet. Everyone has still got guns," one said.

Even so, the soldiers' small camps have taken on a peaceful, domestic air. At one post, for instance, a carefully tended vegetable patch ringed a rifle position, while a young soldier squatted nearby gently rocking his five-month-old baby in a hammock as his wife prepared rice in a pot over a fire.

SNC Delegation Attends Group 77 in Pyongyang

BK1909065591 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Excerpt] A delegation of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC], led by Comrade Im Chhunlim, member of the Cambodian SNC, and comprising SNC members from the State of Cambodia and the Cambodian National Government, attended the seventh ministerial meeting of Asian countries in the Group 77 held in Pyongyang, DPRK, from 10 to 12 September 1991.

The delegation was warmly welcomed by the host, the Korean Government; the organizers of the conference; and many countries' delegates participating in the meeting who expressed special congratulations at the presence of Cambodia's combined delegation at such an international-level meeting. [passage omitted]

Party Committee Receives SRV Guests

BK1909103991 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] On the afternoon of 18 September at the office of the Phnom Penh City party office, the high-ranking delegation of the SRV National Assembly led by Comrade Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly and vice chairman of the SRV Council of State, accompanied by Comrade Nu Beng, vice chairman of the State of Cambodia's National Assembly; and Comrade Ngo Dien, SRV ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Cambodia, held talks with the comrade leading cadres of the Phnom Penh City party ranks.

On this occasion, Comrade Sim Ka, alternate member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the Phnom Penh City party committee, informed the delegation of the firm all-around development of the State of Cambodia over the past 12 years, particularly in the military and security fields following the complete repatriation of Vietnamese troops in September 1989. Comrade Sim Ka also briefed the guests on the results of the recent meeting of the Cambodian Supreme National Council in the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem.

Comrade Sim Ka highlighted the all-around development of Phnom Penh City, for example in economy, trade, industry, communications, culture, social affairs, health, and tourism. Marketplaces have been restored everywhere in the city to serve the needs of the people. Concerning the city's urbanism, many large and new structures have been successively built to improve the city's look so it will be worthy of being the State of Cambodia's economic, cultural, and political center. The comrade also informed the guests about the serious consequences caused by floods which damaged property, houses, animals, a great deal of the rice crop, and public structures such as bridges and many sections of roads in districts around Phnom Penh.

Replying, Comrade Le Quang Dao profoundly thanked Comrade Sim Ka for pointing out the all-around progress achieved by the people in Phnom Penh in the past. This has enabled the delegation to further clearly understand the efforts of the city's party committee and people's committee as well as those of cadres, workers, laborers, and the people in Phnom Penh City to contribute to defending and rebuilding their country.

Donors Pledge Millions for Refugee Repatriation

BK1909071991 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0424 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK September 19—A UN official said here Tuesday that the donor countries pledged to provide 7,700,000 U.S. dollars worth of humanitarian assistance for Cambodians, especially for the repatriation of Cambodian refugees and war-displaced people in the country.

McNamara, assistant to the UN secretary-general in charge of humanitarian affairs, said at a press briefing in Phnom Penh that the pledge to donate 7.7-million-U.S. dollar relief aid to the Cambodian people was made by donor countries at their meeting in New York on September 5, 1991 to discuss the humanitarian relief aid operation.

The meeting of UN agencies in New York put the UNHCR [UN High Commission on Refugees] and the UNBRO [UN Border Relief Organization] in charge of the repatriation of Cambodian refugees, which may begin in late December, 1991, said McNamara.

He spoke of the collection of humanitarian aid sponsored by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) for the victims of the recent rain floods in Cambodia.

McNamara said Norway, Canada and Holland promised to give funds as relief aid for the flood victims, and that in the future the United States will be another donor.

In December, the donor countries will meet in Bangkok, Thailand, to evaluate how much humanitarian aid Cambodia needs, according to McNamara.

Referring to the recent flood in Cambodia, he said he was convinced that relief aid for the flood victims would certainly be continued.

Leaders Receive Thanks From SRV Counterparts

BK1809142991 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] State of Cambodia [SOC]'s Council of State Chairman Comrade Heng Samrin, National Assembly Chairman Comrade Chea Sim, and Council of Ministers Chairman Comrade Hun Sen recently received a message of thanks from the SRV's Council of State chairman Comrade Vo Chi Cong, Council of Ministers Chairman Comrade Vo Van Kiet, and National Assembly Chairman Comrade Le Quang Dao. The message noted:

On behalf of the SRV's National Assembly, Councils of State and of Ministers, and Vietnamese people, we would like to extend to you and, through you, to the SOC's National Assembly, Councils of State and of Ministers, and Cambodian people, most sincere thanks for the valuable sentiments and best wishes extended to us on the 46th anniversary of the August revolution and the 2 September National Day of the SRV.

We are convinced that the solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between our two countries of Vietnam and Cambodia will strengthen and develop constantly in response to the aspiration and interest of each country's people, which is peace, independence, and prosperity.

Message to Chea Sim

BK1909070991 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense [KUFNCD] National Council, recently received a message of thanks from Nguyen Huu Tho, chairman of the presidium of the Vietnam Fatherland Front [VFF] Central Committee. The message says in essence:

On behalf of the VFF Central Committee and in my own name, I would like to convey to you, the KUFNCD National Council, and the fraternal Cambodian people sincere thanks for your best wishes sent to us on the 46th anniversary of the SRV national day. May the friendship and cooperation between our two people constantly develop. May the Cambodian people enjoy happiness.

Hor Namhong Receives Message

BK1909071791 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Comrade Hor Namhong, State of Cambodia's foreign minister, recently received a message of thanks from Comrade Nguyen Manh Cam, SRV foreign minister. Here is the essence of the message:

I would like to sincerely thank you for your best wishes on the 46th anniversary of the August revolution and the SRV's 2 September national day. May the traditional friendship and cooperation between our two countries and our two foreign ministries constantly strengthen and expand.

U.S. Lawyers Meet Army Court President

BK1809142391 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Text] (James Ross), head of the U.S. lawyers delegation visiting the State of Cambodia, recently met with Comrade Colonel (Mei Thol), chairman of the Defense Ministry's Military Tribunal, at 13 October Hotel to get acquainted with the military court's working procedure and system related to human rights.

Answering a number of questions concerning these issues, Comrade Col. (Mei Thol), clearly underlined the history and objective of the Army Tribunal, which was established according to the State of Cambodia's Constitution and the State Council's decree, which represents our armed forces' needs in every situation. Implementation of the law by the military court has been conducted in accordance with justice and law—including decrees No. 2, 4, and 27 of the State of Cambodia's State Council—by vigorously respecting the human rights of the Cambodian people.

After clearly grasping the actual situation in the State of Cambodia, (James Ross) expressed satisfaction with the reality of human rights-related issues in the Cambodian State and considered this correct and just, contrary to some exaggerated accounts given by some Western countries and the Cambodian opposition.

Chea Sim Visits Flood Victims in Prey Veng

BK1909061591 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Summary] On 17 September, Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of both the National Assembly and the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense [KUFNCD] National Council—accompanied by Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Kong Sam-ol, member of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister in charge of the Council of Ministers cabinet; Yim Chhaili, member of the party Central Committee and health minister; Major General Thong Chan, deputy interior minister; and Min Khin, KUFNCD secretary general, as well as a great many other people—visited and handed over basic necessities and cash to 1,000 needy families at the flood-stricken district of Sithor Kandal in Prey Veng Province.

The state-front delegation was welcomed by Yut Phuthang, secretary of Prey Veng Province's party committee, and inhabitants of the district.

After listening to the report on the current flood situation in the province presented by Yut Phuthang, Chea Sim expressed great sorrow over the sufferings experienced by the local victims. He then briefed the latter about the recent developments in the process of settling the Cambodian problem, in particular about a good deal of concessions made by the State of Cambodia Government with a view to putting an end to the war, thereby restoring genuine and durable peace and security to the people. Finally, Chea Sim urged the local administrators at all levels and sectors to pay great attention to providing indispensable assistance to the flood victims on a timely basis.

Indonesia

Sudanese President Arrives on State Visit

BK1809101091 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0924 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Jakarta, Sept 18 (OANA-ANTARA)—Sudanese President 'Umar Hasan Ahmad Al Bashir arrived here Wednesday for a four-day state visit to Indonesia, during which he would discuss matters relating to bilateral, regional and international issues with President Suharto.

He was greeted at the grounds of the Merdeka Presidential Palace by President Suharto with a full military honour.

Vice President Sudharmono, cabinet ministers and military leaders were also on hand to greet the Sudanese leader.

While in Jakarta, unlike other state guests who always stayed at the state guest house, President 'Umar Hasan Ahmad Al Bashir is staying in an international hotel.

On Wednesday afternoon, the Sudanese leader paid a homage and laid a wreath at the Kalibata national heroes cemetery here, after which he is scheduled to receive Vice President Sudharmono.

On the evening, the Sudanese president would be a guest of honor in a state banquet hosted by the President and Madame Tien Suharto at the state palace.

On Thursday morning, President Suharto and President 'Umar Hasan Ahmad Al Bashir would discuss matters relating to bilateral, regional and international issues of common concerns.

On Thursday afternoon, the Sudanese president will leave for Bandung, where he is scheduled to visit the Asia-Africa museum which host the Afro-Asian conference in 1955, and was attended by the Sudanese delegation, even though Sudan at that time was still striving for an independence.

The delegation will also visit the Nusantara aircraft industry (IPTN) and the PINDAD, the army's armament industry.

The state guest will also visit Bali on Friday before leaving for home on Saturday.

Addresses Banquet

BK1909081491 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0336 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Jakarta, Sept 19 (ANTARA)—President Suharto has appealed to the heads of government and heads of state of the Nonaligned Movement (NAM) member countries to maintain their identity and that of the movement, especially in dealing with basic changes in the world.

The head of state made the appeal Wednesday night during a state banquet in honour of Sudanese President 'Umar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir, who arrived in Jakarta on Wednesday afternoon.

On the occasion, also attended by Vice President Sudharmono and House Speaker Kharis Suhud, President Suharto said the basic changes would seriously affect international political affairs. The cold war which has in the past affected the world political situation, will now have its effects on the economy, he added.

Under these circumstances, the president noted, the developing countries needed to expand their cooperation to foster solidarity enabling them to overcome various problems.

"The Nonaligned Movement, still one a means for national struggle of the developing nations is most appropriate to enhance cooperation", the head of state told his guest who will be staying in Indonesia till September 21.

He added that NAM was a powerful force able to give a considerable contribution toward a new world order on the basis of peace, freedom, justice, and prosperity.

Indonesia, therefore, hoped the Sudanese president would be able to attend the NAM summit scheduled to be held in Jakarta next year.

Shortly before the dinner, the two heads of state exchanged souvenirs, a carved elephant tusk for President Suharto and a 'Kris', the traditional dagger with a wavy double-edged blade, and batik cloth for his guest.

President Ahmad Al Bashir in his speech on the occasion said Indonesia and Sudan shared views on many issues, including international events.

My present visit to this country is expected to provide a fine opportunity for an exchange of views on mays and means to increase bilateral cooperation in various fields, particularly in the political, economic, trade and cultural sectors, the sudanese president said.

Sudan, Africa's largest country with a population of more than 22 million, firmly believed that the cooperation between the two countries has bright prospects, which could serve as a positive encouragement for participation in the establishment of a cooperation among the developing countries, more popularly known as the South-South cooperation forum.

President Bashir was in the company of seven cabinet ministers and high-ranking officials, who will have talks with President Suharto on various issues, particularly focussing on bilateral ties and trade relations.

The head of state is also scheduled to visit the museum of the historic Asia-Africa conference and the aircraft factory (IPTN) in Bandung. He also planned to see the island tourist resort of Bali before flying home.

On Thursday, while the two presidents have talks, the ministers of the two countries will also deal with matters relating to their individual fields.

Holds Talks With Suharto

BK1909124191 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] The Sudanese Government wants to learn from Indonesia on the exploitation of forests for development as well as efforts to preserve them. Minister and State Secretary Murdiono disclosed this in Jakarta this afternoon following talks between President Suharto and Sudanese President 'Umar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir. He said that Sudan was also interested in the eradication of communicable diseases, self-sufficiency in rice, and the oil industry in Indonesia. Sudan is interested in the oil industry because that country has huge oil reserves. Regarding food, the Sudanese Government expressed its interest in the national food supply system in Indonesia. Minister Murdiono added that Indonesian and Sudanese economic ministers held special talks this afternoon.

Regarding the nonaligned summit to be held in Jakarta by the end of next year, the two sides agreed that the Nonaligned Movement was entering a new stage in its efforts to enhance South-South cooperation to create a new world order. Toward this end, the developed and developing nations must develop harmonious relations, or North-South relations, through consultations and avoid confrontations.

President 'Umar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir and his delegation left for Bandung this afternoon. They will visit the Afro-Asian Conference Museum and the Nusantara Aircraft Industry in the city. While in Indonesia, the Sudanese guests will also visit Bali.

Commentary on East Timor Portuguese Visit

BK1909022291 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] Speaking at a hearing with Parliament's Commission I on 17 September, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said that the upcoming visit to East Timor by Portuguese members of parliament is aimed at observing, not investigating, activities in that province. The visit was discussed by the two governments some time ago, which later reached an agreement on the issue.

The Indonesian Government's approval for the visit was disclosed by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas on 24 August when he reported the matter to President Suharto at the Cendana presidental residence. At that time, Minister Alatas did not disclose the exact date of the visit. But he later revealed that the visit would be carried out either this month or in October. Even then, no exact date can be given because Portugal itself will hold general elections in October.

During that parliamentary hearing, however, Minister Alatas disclosed that an advance party of the Portuguese parliamentary delegation will be sent to Dili at the end of this month to pave the way for the visit. The advance party will consist of about six persons, consisting of three groups—namely, a representative of the UN secretary general, Portuguese, and Indonesian representatives. In addition to conducting logistical preparations, the advance party will also do other necessary preparations.

Since the integration of East Timor into Indonesia in 1976, the Portuguese Government has always shown its displeasure with Indonesia; however, its efforts to prevent its former colony from joining Indonesia have slowly but steadily lost support from the international community because the East Timor people were living in miserable, backward, and isolated conditions for hundreds of years under colonial rule. Things are different now after they decided to exercise their right of self-determination by integrating into Indonesia. They have benefitted from development projects, and their income has steadily increased. Furthermore, a university has now been established in Dili. In 1986 alone, the university produced a total of 20 master's degree graduates, 80 bachelor's degree graduates, and one doctorate graduate. Therefore, it is not surprising that East Timor Governor Carascalao is absolutely unperturbed by the planned visit by Portuguese members of parliament.

Vietnamese Fishermen Deported After Prison Term

BK1909035691 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0329 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Pekanbaru, Riau, Sept. 19 (ANTARA)—Sixty-four Vietnamese fishermen were deported to their home country on Tuesday after serving a two-month prison term in Tanjung Pinang for illegally fishing in the Indonesian waters.

The Vietnamese were handed over to a Vietnamese Embassy official, Nguyen Duy Hung, before they were asked to leave Indonesia, a spokesman of the local prosecution said here on Wednesday.

The Tanjung Pinang Court confiscated the three fishing vessels they had used during the poaching, he said. Foreign vessels are often seen fishing illegally on the Natuna island waters where the Vietnamese fishermen had been caught. "Vietnamese refugees have frequently entered indonesia illegally through the waters," he said.

Laos

Meeting Elects Party Control Board

BK1909022891 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1400 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] The annual meeting of the party Central Committee [CC] Control Board was concluded on 16 September after a one-week session. The meeting reviewed the outcome of control work in the past year and pledged to consolidate and make this work more efficient in the coming year. To achieve this goal, the meeting unanimously elected a new control board for the party Central Committee with Maichantan Sengmani as chairman and Mrs. Davon Vongsak, Venthong, and (?Khieu Savat) as vice chairmen, together with control board members from the National Defense Ministry, the Committee in Charge of Building Grass-Roots, and the mass organizations.

The meeting noted that in the past the Control Board paid attention to controlling and supervising the implementation of the party's line and policies by cadres and party members, controlling the application of the party's principle of democratic centralism, supervising finance work, and screening petitions filed by the public to bring more order and tranquillity to the management of state and society.

Maisouk Saisompheng Pays Visit to SRV

BK1909005991 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] At the invitation of Pham Van Kiet, vice chairman and general secretary of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, Maisouk Saisompheng, chairman of the Lao Front for National Construction [LFNC] Central Committee, and his delegation left for an official friendship visit to the SRV on the afternoon of 17 September. The visit will end on 24 September.

During his visit to that country, Maisouk Saisompheng and his entourage will exchange experience on front work with the Vietnamese counterparts to increasingly and more effectively strengthen the mutual cooperation and assistance between the two fronts and to further enhance the special solidarity, relations of friendship, and comprehensive cooperation between Laos and Vietnam.

Seeing the delegation off at Wattai Airport were Vongphet Saikeu- Yachongtoua, vice chairman of the LFNC, and a number of high-ranking front cadres. Nguyen Xuan, SRV ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos, was also at the airport to bid farewell to the delegation.

Maichantan Sengmani Chairs Work Conference

BK1809142591 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1400 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] The 1991 nationwide conference on control and inspection work which had been convened for 10 days was successfully concluded in Vientiane on 16 September. Maichantan Sengmani, Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee [CC] and head of the party CC Control and Inspection Board, presided over the conference.

During the conference, more than 60 cadres in charge of control and inspection work from many provinces throughout the country jointly discussed and assessed the outcome of control and inspection work in the past years, especially the implementation of many state laws and regulations; their active contributions to building, consolidating, and developing the people's democratic regime; and many other issues relating to control and inspection work. The conference also mapped out future plans aimed at executing the party and state control work in the new period by relying on the party CC's resolutions and at effectively and gradually organizing implementation of the state's laws and regulations with a high sense of responsibility.

Romania Sends Kaysone, Khamtai Messages

BK1909064991 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1400 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Recently, Kaysone Phomvihan and Khamtai Siphandon received congratulatory messages from the leaders of Romania on their respective election as new president and appointment as new prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR].

In addition to expressing pride and congratulating Kaysone Phomvihan for his election as president and Khamtai Siphandon for his appointment as prime minister of the LPDR, the congratulatory messages—signed by Romanian President Ion Iliescu and Prime Minister Petre Roman—also highly valued the friendship between the peoples of the two countries. The Romanian leaders expressed the firm belief that these relations will continually develop and strengthen for the happiness of the two peoples of Romania and Laos.

Phoun Receives Bulgarian Charge d'Affaires

BK1909111691 Vientiane KPL in English 0928 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 19 (KPL)—The charge d'affaires of Bulgaria, Mr. Gueorgui Damenov, on Sept 17, paid a courtesy visit to Lao Foreign Minister Mr. Phoun Sipaseut and bade farewell to the former.

Mr. Phoun Sipaseut, who is also vice prime mnister, congratulated the Bulgarian charge d'affaires for his successful mission in Laos.

Radio Interview on Bridge Construction

BK1909103191 Vientiane KPL in English 0937 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 19 (KPL)—The Lao National Radio recently interviewed Mr. Sam Zappia, from the Technical and Economic Cooperation Division, Australian Embassy, in charge of the project.

Following is Mr. Sam Zappia's interview:

The Mekong River bridge project is now in its final stage prior to construction start-off.

The Australian government, along with the governments of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic] and Thailand, have been working up a feasibility study which looked at various asiects of the project, the technical aspects and the economic impact. That study has now been completed and has been formally handed to the Lao and Thai Governments.

The Australian side has also advertised the contract which required the information from the feasiblity study before we prepared the tender documents. The selection of contractors is now almost complete. We are now negotiating with the four firms that were shortlisted for the construction contract and we hope, by the end of this month, to sign and contract with one Austalian firm for the construction of the Mekong River bridge.

On the 20th of September in Vientiane, there will be a meeting involving the three governments, at which there will be a review of the conditions that are necessary for the contract to be signed. Those conditions are basically that the constructors can have unrestricted access to the area and can start work, and that the site is in readiness, that means there is electricity, telephones and other services.

Assuming that all the conditions have been met, Australia will then proceed to sign a contract and the work will get underway, as scheduled, in November.

We shall have teams of people starting with the piling work in the water and also with the construction of the embankments on both sides.

The contractor, an Australian firm, will enter into a number of sub-arrangements. So it is anticipated that there will be a number of local firms engaged by the contractor to do the various sections of work.

Australia will also have supervising engineers who will supervise the job in terms of how to make sure that the standards are adhered to. The supervisors will have, as part of their team, some Lao engineers and Thai engineers who will work along side and will be part of the supervision team and as part of the training that will occur under the project.

Likewise, the contractors are required to have on their team a number of Lao and Thai engineers or trainees. So there will be a great training element that will come from the project and people who are employed on the project will learn about the techniques of bridge building, particularly using pre-stressed concrete. They will be shown how to supervise a job of this nature. So there will be a lot of hand-on experience and a lot of technology transfer that will occur as a result of this project.

The construction work will start in November this year and should be finished by April 1994.

The bulk of the bridge work itself should be finished by the end of 1993 and there will be landscaping, bank protection work that will be ongoing in the early part of 1994. There will be then, I imagine, some large official ceremony to celebrate the opening of the bridge. It is expected that there will be a foundation stone laying ceremony in November this year to mark the beginning of the project.

On the project itself it is expected that there will be site offices which will have diplay rooms so that the general public, at any time, can follow the construction work. A model on display, like the one at the Wattai Airport, would give some indication of how the bridge should look at the end, and at the site of offices during the course of the project, there will be a display room for schoolchildren to have a look and perhaps be given a guided tour. There will be prepared material so that the general public can, at any time, go along and be kept informed and can ask questions, and there will be people there to answer them.

Philippines

More Ramifications of Treaty Rejection Reported

Pro-Bases Senators Go to U.S.

HK1909071491 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 19 Sep 91 pp 1, 10

[By Margaret Lacson]

[Text] San Francisco—Three Philippine senators and the country's ambassador to the United States flew to Washington on Tuesday to tell U.S. officials that a referendum may be held before the end of the year which could overturn the rejection by the Philippine Senate of the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. base treaty.

A day after 12 senators voted to boot out the last U.S. military base in the Philippines, Ambassador Emmanuel Pelaez and Senators Edgardo Angara, Neptali Gonzales and Heherson Alvarez arrived in this city en route to Washington to appease U.S. officials over the rejection of the treaty.

"We are here to explain to our American friends that the process of ratification (of the treaty) is still going on," Angara said, adding that a referendum may be held before the year was over.

Pelaez said the senators will be staying in Washington for a week and will be meeting with Richard Armitage, chief of the U.S. panel that negotiated the base treaty, Pentagon officials, members of the Senate appropriations committee including Sen. Richard Lugar, and Rep. Stephen Solarz, who recently visited Manila in an effort to ensure the ratification of the treaty by the Philippine Senate.

Despite objections from legal experts who described the referendum plan as "unconstitutional," President Aquino and several pro-bases senators have stuck to their position that a referendum should decide the fate of American troops in the country.

"The greater majority of Filipinos are really in favor of the ratification of the treaty," Gonzales said. He added that the stand of the 12 anti-base senators was "not a factual representation of the people's choice."

"We are here to reassure the American government that we are going to exercise a democratic process," he said.

Pelaez said the base agreement was not the prime factor in determining the relationship between the U.S. and the Philippines, and that the crucial issue was the continuance of goodwill.

Rep. Patsy Mink of Hawaii, who was also at the airport, said relations between the two countries would not be severely damaged by the rejection of the base pact.

"It is of course for our country to understand how we could be rejected in this way," Mink said. "But I don't think in the long term that it's going to be a final break. We're hoping that there would still be time for continued discussions between the two governments," she added.

"The Americans' concern is with respect to their people in the Philippines," Pelaez said. "Our concern is with respect to people who would be displaced. So I think it's best that the two countries consult and find a way that will be most advantageous to both.

"There has been a lot of misunderstanding here," he added. "This is a treaty of friendship and cooperation. It is a general treaty with a new framework for Filipino-American relations."

Manglapus Talks on Bases Issue

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["Viewpoint" program interview with Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus by host Attorney Ric Puno—live]

[Text] [Puno] Well, the assumption on the basis of the Senate vote yesterday was that everything was over. That the bases agreement has been over and done with and we are now going towards a period of dismantling. As it turns out, it is far from over. That is what we will be talking about this evening with our only guest who is going to assess with us the result of the Senate vote yesterday as well as look forward to what else can be expected insofar as this particular treaty is concerned. Our only guest this evening is Secretary Raul Manglapus of the Department of Foreign Affairs. [commercial break]

Secretary Manglapus, as I mentioned in the introduction, it appears that it is not yet over insofar as this particular bases agreement is concerned. And I think you should be talking about this idea of a referendum, or people's initiative, and we will make the distinction later on. But let's look back first and look at the vote itself because one of the things that was raised many, many, times during this debate, including by those who said that they would be voting for it, was that basically the agreement was, in the words of the vice president, flawed. Even Senator Shahani who was the chairperson of the foreign relations committee made a lot of comments about certain defects in the agreement. I would like to ask you, do you concede that the agreement itself is flawed?

[Manglapus] There are no agreements, no contracts, at any time that are not flawed because, by definition, when you enter into a contract, there are two parties. When you enter into a treaty, there are at least two parties. And the positions of both parties must be satisfied before they can sign anything. Therefore, when you look at the product of the negotiations, one side will always find that maybe you gave in too much or you got too little. But that is, by definition, the nature of a treaty.

[Puno] But let us discuss up front, one of the principal objections to this agreement, the matter of the indefiniteness of the commitment by the United States vis-a-vis the definiteness of the Philippine commitment. And people look for example at all the financial implications, the so-called compensation. And of course, leaving aside the $203 million versus $770 milion, something which you thought was the real figure. Despite all of that, the criticism was that the United States was not obligated to give anything under this particular document.

[Manglapus] Yes. Those who say that are unwilling to accept current realities in treatymaking, particularly the hosting treaties which the United States enters into with other countries. There are commitments in this treaty found both in the body of the treaty and in the accompanying letter by the President which forms part of the commitment in the treaty. This is not a unique thing in this situation. The United States has entered into treaties or agreements with countries like Turkey, Greece, Portugal, and Spain in exactly the same way. There is the body of the treaty and there is an accompanying letter which goes into the specifics of the commitment. But in the body of the treaty, there is a general commitment. That is exactly what we have here, in Article 7 of the treaty that we signed.

[Puno] All right. But the letter itself does make a specific commitment or specific mention about the first year's commitment of $363 million and the second year's commitment to the eigth year or the seventh year of $203 million. But beyond that, everything else, like for example the excess defense articles, you talk about economic growth initiatives for example, assistance from the United States, and other matters such as the Buy Philippines Program. Although others have put a certain figure on that, in the letter itself as well as in the body of the agreement, no figures are cited.

[Manglapus] Well, sometimes the figures are supplied by our own statistics, for example the Buy Philippines Program, those statistics are open to public view in the department of trade and industry. We have evidence that the current program buys as much as at least $200 million a year. This is a program, by the way, that is not just a buying program. It is made possible only because the United States has waived a certain law that would oblige U.S. facilities in the Pacific or abroad outside U.S. territory to buy only American goods. Because they waived that, they are now buying Philippine goods. Now, we supply the figures because we do not take their word. We take our own word because we know that our department of trade and industry knows exactly how much our producers of these goods sold to the United States. For example, the (?Sestisan Fast Foods), we know how much we want. It's $150 million. We put it down there and they accept that as the figure that we want and they'll give it to us when the time comes.

[Puno] If all of this is true, Mr. Secretary, how come there was no...[changes thought] Well, people are saying that the negotiators, for instance, should have insisted that all these figures be placed in the agreement, not in the main agreement but in the side letter by the President of the United States.

[Manglapus] These figures are mentioned in the various documents involved in the negotiations. And as I said they are our figures because it is we—we take our own word. We don't take their word for it. Let me explain something that has escaped the notice of some.

In 1988, I entered into an agreement covering the last two years of the current agreement and I got a compensation which was composed of two parts just like this one, namely, the appropriated portion and the nonappropriated portion. Now, the U.S. officials and U.S. media are interested only in telling one half of the story because they do not want their constituents to be alarmed. You know, over 30 bases have been closed down in the United States and about 200 elsewhere. Those affected in the United States are angry about the closures and they get angrier when they hear that the United States is still holding bases outside for which they are paying millions of dollars. So, they have to confine their... [changes thought] ...and that is why I said that those who focus and insist that all we're getting is $203 million are falling for the American line. They had to follow that line for their audience.

[Puno] But was not your first statement, or among your first statements when this last round was concluded, a complaint that there was a shortfall in the Manglapus...

[Manglapus, interrupting] Ah. There is a shortfall for which they are making up. Yes. The United States has come up with the military equipment and medical equipment. This is an ongoing program to make up for the shortfall.

[Puno] So, there was simply no way then whereby, for example, the negotiators could have pushed the situation where certain, if not specific figures or all figures, could be put in the signed letter to define some kind of parameter, so that we would have an idea as to how much the total financial package was.

[manglapus] The important thing is not the figure but the reality behind the figure. Now, the buying program for example. As I said our department of trade and industry accepts that they are buying and that could easily be disproved if somebody wanted to disprove it by going to those engaged in selling these materials to the United States. Their names are all there on the list.

[Puno] Another criticism, Mr Secretary, is that the change of the format from the statement of best efforts on the part of the President and in the formulation now which say subject to availability of funds and subject to U.S. constitutional process. Actually, this puts us in a worse situation because lawyers know that the phrase "best efforts" is subject to certain standards of performance. And right now, it looks like it's an out and out escape hatch for the President of the United States.

[Manglapus] No, no. Subject to the constitutional processess is something that can not be avoided. Some people get the wrong impression that when you put a figure in the body of the treaty, for example, when the United States bought the Philippines from Spain for $20 million—10 million people, two dollars a head you know—some people had a wrong impression that time and even now, that that money automatically came out of the treasury of the United States and was paid immediately to Spain. No. That still had to go through the appropriation process. That is the constitutional process that is referred to in the Bush letter. You cannot get around that. Our Constitution is clear and our own members of the House and the Senate appreciate this very much indeed. They do not want anyone to say, okay, the Senate can okay the treaty and then there is no more appropriation process. No. The guardians of the people's money, namely the members of Congress, have to step in to appropriate that money.

[Puno] So, why is it that when the shoe is on the other foot, they now raise it as one of the primary questions that there was no definiteness to the U.S. commitment.

[Manglapus] Well, this is what I said just now. They refuse to accept the reality of treatymaking. The treaty we have entered into is not unique in form. That kind of treaty has been entered into with the United States by countries like Turkey, Spain, Portugal, Greece, and Japan, which by the way pays the United States rather than getting paid by the United States, as does South Korea.

[Puno] Before we go on to other subjects like the referendum, let's go to the whole process itself, particularly in terms of the negotiating process and the style that our negotiators follow because it is something which keeps coming up. They say for example that, like President Aquino, you are one of those who signed a convenors' group statement which actually said that you were not in favor of...

[Manglapus, interrupting] No. I was not here. I was not here. And it was the NUCD [National Union of Christian Democrats] representative, Mr. Ramon Tagle...

[Puno, interrupting] ...who signed on your behalf?

[Manglapus] I was still in exile.

[Puno] I see. Signed on your behalf...

[Manglapus, interrupting] For the party, yes.

[Puno] With your consent?

[Manglapus] Yes.

[Puno] So, that was one. That was in fact a position that you had taken earlier before [words indistinct] that you were not in favor of the retention of the bases.

[Manglapus] Yes.

[Puno] And if I am not mistaken there were certain quotes attributed to you like slaying America's policy...

[Manglapus, interrupting] Oh, that was the statement I made in 1966. [laughter]. But you must complete it—slaying the American father image and cutting it down to brotherly size. I made the front, the cover story of FREE and FREE PRESS that time.

[Puno] But I guess the substance of that observation has to do with this. Did that attitude somehow color your negotiating approach this time?

[Manglapus] Very clearly, what happened was this. First, that silly remark has been made about Ninoy Aquino's own attitude. Certainly, when the U.S. bases here were perceived by many, including us exiles, as instruments for the continuation in power of the dictatorship, certainly we were against them. But that is no longer the perception. Now, as I said in this policy speech of which you have a copy, we have to go along with the realities of this last decade of this century as we go into the next one. And that is that nationalism and regionalism have to go together. And 30 countries around the world have a military arrangement with foreign countries, including bases arrangements, and they are not to be regarded of course as nonsovereign. They are fully fledged members of the United Nations and constitute about one-fifth of the UN membership.

[Puno] Okay. Mr. Secretary, you want to explain a little bit about the 1988 Manglapus-Shultz portion of the appropriated amount?

[Manglapus] Yes. The appropriated and the nonappropriated. The Americans asked me that time in 1988, please don't release the full package and do it only when you get back to the Philippines. And now I know why. They did not want to alarm their public and their constituents. Now, I'm having the last laugh. I was attacked at the time for this weak package. Now, you go to the department of finance and you will be told that because of the nonappropriated portion of that 1988 package which allowed us to undertake a debt reduction program, we have been able to reduce our debt by $1.2 billion because of that two-year package only. Now that is what is going to happen now. There is a debt reduction package here which the senators refuse to—the antibases senators—refuse to entertain as a reality. But it is there. There are $200 million there that can be used for our debt reduction program which could operate to begin to bring down our $5.3 billion private debt.

[Puno] Okay. One of the statements made, for example, by the chairperson of the foreign relations committee Senator Shahani, in her explanation of her vote, she did say that one of the problems in this entire thing was that you had not consulted that well or that often, particularly before the negotiations began or in the process of the negotiations, with the senators. Is that accurate?

[Manglapus] Up to the very last day before we made our announcement in July with Mr. Armitage, that we had arrived at an agreement on the major issues in the negotiations, a few hours before we did that, I was sitting with the senators. We were in close consultation with them, not only myself but, on occasions, the president herself would invite them to the palace. The truth is there is something that some senators are reluctant to say or to admit that some features of this treaty come from them. Example, the duration. I went to them and said, look they were willing to accept seven. I think they would have accepted seven, I said. They, meaning the Americans. But Pinatubo happened. They had to leave Clark and now they are going to spend more millions of dollars to rehabilitate Subic and they are asking us to allow them to stay a little longer in order that they might amortize the additional money that they are going to have to spend to reconstruct Subic. And so, one of them, I think I should not violate confidence on that, but one of them said okay let's give them that. Then someone said but that is going to create problems because the Americans won't pay for the [word indistinct]. In the withdrawal mode, they think that they should not be made to pay.

[Puno] And there were no objections?

[Manglapus] Also the $203 million figure, I've told them, the Americans wanted to pay even less than that because they were saying, well, you know we're no longer going to occupy Clark, Wallace, and all these places. So, please allow us to give you just a little less.

[Puno] In appropriated amount?

[Manglapus] The nonappropriated was to be the same. I said to them, all right, I am not going to accept what they are offering. What do you think we should accept? And I said, the figure should be set to $203.

[Puno] So, this consultation process was not merely the way of presenting them a fait accompli and telling them that this is what we have to agree to...

[Manglapus, interrupting] The imports were coming in and there may be some of them who may say well, years ago you mentioned the figure and we did not raise an objection. That means we agreed, well, to what you seek. At the last, particularly the last days, it was evident that everything that we agreed upon was critical. I think time was running out. We were all worried that there may be no time for the Senate to discuss it and it was clearly evident to everyone that I was sitting with them in order to absorb their inputs and to arrive at some understanding on critical things like compensation and the duration.

[Puno] Essentially, what you are saying is that if they had only looked at history, it does not seem that the United States has completely reneged or even reneged on any of their commitments and they have to a large extent honored them, and I guess the American position is they even exceeded the committments they made.

[Manglapus] The Americans want to remind us for instance, all the time, that besides all of this, they are giving money for the Multilateral Aid Initiative [MAI] and all that, we refused to accept that as part of our compensation for the ...

[Puno, interrupting] Why couldn't the senators be convinced of this...[changes thought] I mean you were a senator, you were elected as senator. You left them when you assumed the position of secretary of foreign affairs, why couldn't...

[Manglapus, interrupting] There are certain emotional aspects of this that I am afraid may have overcome some of the senators. I am not saying that they are not all sincere They are all sincere. I think they all want to do what is best for the country. Their point of view, however, I think has been influenced by thinking that, as I say in my policy speech, is no longer even what the nationalist stands for anywhere in the world. And their recollection, I heard a statement by John Osmena on television which I thought was very good. He asked the question, why is it that you do not want to accept present reality and you keep telling us about what Recto said 35 years ago. Well, not only did I find that pertinent but later on I told Osmena you should have told them that even Recto in his day never really opposed the bases here. In fact, I have shown in my policy speech that once he had a running debate with Maximo Kalaw. Both of them agreed that a newly independent country in Asia would find it difficult to stand all by itself without outside help. However, they differed on how this newly independent country or these new countries could defend themselves. Kalaw said, let the Asians take care of themselves and let us hope that China and Japan can balance each other. Recto should know the way to this is to engage in the balance of power game. How do you do that? You allow the Western powers to stay in Asia. That was his real politic. And later on, some people had the impression that he was all out against the American presence here and that was not his position. He went against them, criticized the Mutual Defense Treaty, he criticized SEATO, of which I was the secretary and several senators like Cabingi and Tanada were signatories. But Recto criticized it not because he did not like the American presence but because he thought the Americans were not guaranteeing enough protection for us. He wanted the NATO formula and he said that the NATO formula was the same formula as that found in our Mutual Defense Treaty.

[Puno] So, with that analysis, what is your view that perhaps it was a lost cause from the very beginning, that no matter what kind of document we presented to the senators would not have passed, in any case?

[Manglapus] No. I did not think it was a lost cause. As a matter of fact, I was hopeful at one time. I even said talk to them and they did not like it. Some senators did not like it. Alright, so stop using the word confident and I said hopeful. However, as I said, this kind of thinking, I am afraid, got through to them. I am afraid this thinking is not based on current reality anymore.

[Puno] So, the dramatic persona involved here are also themselves subject to some comments. For example, your vice chairman, Secretary of Health Alfredo Bengzon. Why for example [not] somebody from another department who was more directly concerned?

[Manglapus] Well, perhaps, you have to understand the talents of Alran. He is not only a medical doctor. He has been a successful head of the Peace Commission. In the Cabinet, he has been known to be one of the best organized minds and so, I suppose, he understandably impressed President Aquino for that kind of job.

[Puno] But isn't the perception correct that he was more of a hardliner. He wanted a very, very strong position. He was really intent more toward not continuing the agreement at all.

[Manglapus] Well, he went along with the negotiations until up to the point where we were already talking about seven years. I think he was unhappy about some of what he called the back channeling that was going on, that is to say, people getting to the president and bypassing the panel.

[Puno] But that came about particularly when Secretary Orbos was executive secretary.

[Manglapus] Yes. Maybe that was at that time but it started long before that. I was kind of more ready to understand this than he was because I had had my own experience in 1988. In 1988 if you remember, I concluded the talks in Washington and, contrary to perceptions that going to Washington was disadvantageous to us, it was disadvantageous for the Americans themselves because going to Washington, which is an open society, permitted me to take up these back channels as a means of improving our position. I was able to put together a coalition at that time of our friends on Capitol Hill, people who had helped us even during our exile. State Department elements were eager to sign as against the Department of the Treasury which was resisting the debt reduction program and we were able to overcome (word indistinct). If I had not gone to Washington and undertaken this [chuckles], if you want to use the word back channeling, then we would not have been successful. So, I could understand, we are as open a society as the Americans. The president of the Philippines is accessible to... [changes thought] She cuts across protocol sometimes as occasionally does the President of the United States. And so, I was somewhat more ready to understand than some of our rigid minds like that of Alran.

[Puno] Ambassador Pelaez, was he filling you in on [words indistinct] in these particular negotiations?

[Manglapus] Ambassador Pelaez had his role to play in Washington. We were in constant touch with him. He was in constant touch with the State Department as well as the elements in Congress. Just as was Nick Platt. Nick Platt, you know, was not a member of the panel. He was here while it was going on. He did not sit with us but he was useful to the Americans as an official channel to the Philippine Government and to his friends in our Congress.

[Puno] But top people say, Secretary Manglapus, that he was not completely utilized. Some people say he was even disauthorized [word as heard] at one point to make further contacts...

[Manglapus, interrupting] There was not any disauthorization. It was only because the president was thinking of making sure that we presented a solid...

[Puno, interrupting] Was he working at cross purposes?

[Manglapus] Not really. But there are things that sometimes are necessary to be done in order to present a solid front. You have to ask that there be only one spokesman which was the case of the other side. Nobody spoke for the United States but Armitage. And that is always an advantage particularly as it is not easy to achieve in a democratic society but it has to be done if the negotiations are to go on successfully.

[Puno] Okay. Therefore my question, Secretary Manglapus, on this whole topic of the panel itself, the Philippine panel itself, and Senator Shahani has also raised this particular issue. Number one, who was really calling the shots here, because according to her, Armitage was a full-time negotiator and he was representing a united view. You were a part-time negotiator and you were representing a divided view. I mean is that a correct characterization of the ...

[Manglapus, interrupting] Armitage was not a full time negotiator in the Philippines. He used to fly from here to the Middle East where he also had a mission, not only one mission, several missions to perform regarding Syria and Jordan and Israel. So, the premise of the question is not correct. He was not a full-time Philippine-American negotiator. So, that settles that. Neither of us were full-time. But I do not understand why they should let you be held against the language of the treaty itself because it is the language of the treaty that speaks for itself. [sentence as heard]

[Puno] So, who was calling the shots in this particular negotiation?

[Manglapus] The president was.

[Puno] The president was. Were instructions received by you from the president as this was going on?

[Manglapus] Indeed. When Alran was there, of course, with the stature as a member of the Cabinet. That stature was given its proper due and I suppose sometimes you could say that there were multiple messages that they were all harmonized because the president herself was giving us all the instructions.

[Puno] Do you agree with what Senator Shahani said that we kept our options open well too long or was it properly...

[Manglapus, interrupting] Well, that of course is an understandable thinking to come from the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations in the Senate. She has been very much with us in this matter and we appreciate her cooperation. However, in the executive there are certain responsibilities in the Senate that I have been involved in, but you don't have to undertake in the Senate. [sentence as heard] And the decisions that we make in the executive sometimes are not fully appreciated by those in the Senate. They get a little more impatient that we in the executive, certainly the president and the executive, the president of the Philippines has to worry about the total picture. In the Senate, you are chairman of a committee and you focus on that and you become somewhat impatient when your counterparts in the executive do not make up their minds soon enough.

[Puno] And if this negotiation changes, the situation somewhat changes. It changes radically. It changes frequently.

[Manglapus] That's correct.

[Puno] Let's go now to what can be done. I mean what can be done now in so far as this particular agreement is concerned. Yesterday, you withdrew the notice of termination that had earlier been served upon the United States when the whole round of negotiations began with Mr. Armitage. I takr it that the notice was given that the treaty would terminate by September 16?

[Manglapus] That was September 16, 1991.

[Puno] Now, that notice is apparently being withdrawn?

[Manglapus] Yes. Let me explain. When we presented that notice in May of last year to the United States, the United States received the notice but they did not accept our interpretation of the Ramos-Rusk Agreement. Our interpretation was that the 25 years was to be counted from September 16, 1966, when Ramos and Rusk made this agreement. And therefore, ever since they talk about 25 years, therefore September 16, 1991 was the termination date. But the language, unfortunately, of the Ramos-Rusk Agreement, Americans and there are some Filipinos who agree, was quite ambivalent, because the language says that at the end of the 25 years, then unless there is an agreement before that, there could be termination after one year's notice. We took the position that that one year was before the end of the 25 years, but the language does seem to admit the possibility that you cannot give the notice before. It must come after 16 September 1991.

[Puno] If no one gives notice, then it is renewable every year. So, what is the effect of your withdrawal on this ground?

[Manglapus] This is what happens. Since they did not accept our decision. At that time, this was last year, we both agreed, they suggested it that we didn't see why we wouldn't agree. that, since we could not agree, we will not waste time discussing it because by 16 September 1991, both sides hoped that we would already have a, not only a signed, but a ratified treaty. But that is not what happened. What happened of course, is that the treaty was signed. It went to the ratification of the Senate. But because of the possibility of a referendum, we, it is our position, that, that process of ratification is not yet finished.

[Puno] Okay, so, the effect now is that there is no notice of termination out there. Have we in effect, accepted the American interpretation that now, there must be notice and a one-year period would begin from the time that notice is served.

[Manglapus] Yes. Let me say again that that is not just an American interpretation. There are important figures in the Philippines who also think that there is room for that interpretation.

[Puno] Now that they... that one-year period will not begin until the Philippine Government once again, serves notice of termination.

[Manglapus, interrupting] Or they serve.

[Puno] Yes, either party can serve. And obviously they will not serve.

[Manglapus] We are thinking of the move that we should make, which would result in service of notice.

[Puno] Okay, now, of course the question being raised here is whether this is in conformity with our constitutional provisions, the transitory provision?

[Manglapus] The Constitution, which as of now we can say that we are certainly within the Constitution, even from the viewpoint of the language of Section 25 of the transitory provision which provides for this treaty procedure. Because Section 25 does not say 16 September 1991. Because it terminates in 1991. So, that takes care of that until the end of this year.

[Puno] December of 1991.

[Manglapus] Yes. And we are hoping that the referendum that we'll prepare for will take place before the end of this year.

[Puno] I see, so the reason why the move will be made to try to get this referendum done by December of this year, is so that there are no constitutional qustions raised.

[Manglapus] No. That is a side benefit, shall we say, of such a thing. What the date that we're thinking about is really intended to be the soonest possible in order that this uncertainty—national uncertainty—may end quickly.

[Puno] And in any case, the other argument is that the ratification process is not yet complete. So that is what you are...

[Manglapus, interrupting] That is correct.

[Puno] Aha, what completes it? I mean, now the Senate does not concur in the treaty itself. Well what will complete that process of concurrence of this work.

[Manglapus] Well, there are ...[changes thought] Malacanang is now studying the alternative possibilities for the language to be submitted to and the petition in the propositions to our people. We're going into Republic Act 6735, by the way, I should say here, that while we are going to 6735, I should point out that there are [words indistinct] of this Constitution, contains bounteous support for the upholding of the will of the people, the sovereignty of the people. I have here with me, language taken from the record of the Constitutional Commission. Among them, a speech by Fr. Bernas who is known for his constitutional way; who goes out of his way to stress that while we are a representative democracy, there are elements in this Constitution traceable to the very first article which establishes the sovereignty of the people. And all authority of the government emanates from this. That establishes that we are also a direct democracy.

[Puno] Alright, so is the position of the government going to be anchored on 6735?

[Manglapus] That is what we are looking into now.

[Puno] Secretary Manglapus, you know I think you and I acknowledged that there are bound to be some constitutional challenges no matter what the government does in terms of this particular referendum. Already opinions are being ventured in terms of whether either a referendum or a people's initiative, or whether the lines in 6735 is properly phrased, at least in a legal sense. But I have another question, and I think, let the Supreme Court decide that, there are different views. The question I have in mind is a practical one. When we present the question to the people, number one is, what is the question that we are going to present there?

[Manglapus] The Department of Justice is now looking into 6735 in conjunction with the Constitution. And looking into the language which the proposition presented to the people would be couched, one alternative is to just ask the people, do you agree with the resolution that the rejection by the Senate is to be rejected. And then the 6735 does not...[changes thought] There's nothing on 6735 against asking the people more than one or presenting to the people more than one proposition.

[Manglapus] There could be another proposition which could say, do you ratify this treaty?

[Puno] Ah, okay.

[Manglapus] The Constitution clearly contemplates, perhaps not necessarily in this particular provision, but Section 25 of the transitory provisions clearly contemplates the situation for the people themselves to directly ratify this treaty. The treaty concerned foreign bases. The language of Section 25 does not say that the Senate may concur and then that concurrence may be submitted to the people in the referendum. That is not the language. The language is that: the Senate will concur and then the people would be given a chance to ratify the treaty directly, not agree or disagree with the Senate. But agree or not agree to the treaty.

[Puno, interrupting] Okay, I think that, as I said, that is going to be debated [chuckles]. But I guess my point is this: Is it possible, do you foresee a possibility, that what is going to be presented to the people is whether or not the treaty that you negotiated, which you have signed recently, is going to be either ratified directly by the people in toto, meaning with all the comments about this being flawed and all that, are we saying that what will be presented to the people will be such that at the end of the exercise, we will have a Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Security which is that treaty which you negotiated?

[Manglapus] That is the objective of the current study that is now being made prior to taking the full steps towards this referendum.

[Puno] And again, the other part of that question is: When that is done, that means that it will no longer go back to the Senate for another ratification?

[Manglapus] If we follow that route of presenting to the people a proposition that would result in ratification by the people, they wouldn't have to go back to the Senate.

[Puno] So, in other words this is, I guess, consistent with what the United States is saying because the other senators... [changes thought] What was in other people's minds was, if the people should say they reject the rejection but would like also that this treaty be renegotiated so that the other aspects be brought in, that is no longer possible? No renegotiation would be possible depending on the people's will as a result of the referendum?

[Manglapus, interrupting] Negotiation is... [changes thought] You do not even have to call it renegotiation, but new negotiation is possible at any time between two sovereign countries. So it may be that if the people unpredictably reject it, the new government next year, or even this government might wish to start new negotiations.

[Puno] Well, I guess my question is: In light of all these objections about indefiniteness of a lot of the commitments, will the United States, for example between now and then, come up with some more specific items, like for example, their so-called economic growth initiatives, their assistance with international creditor organizations; the PAP [Philippine Assistance Program]-MAI [Multilateral Assistance Initiative] for instance; debt relief which you have, you have solved by sort of compromise.

[Manglapus] We will never agree to include PAP-MAI as part of the talks on the bases. Let me make that very clear.

[Puno] All right, what about debt relief and all of those other...

[Manglapus, interrupting] Well, let me say again, I am sorry but we don't have Jess Estanislao and Joey Cuisia here tonight. But they could tell you in very concrete terms, that there is a debt reduction program in this package that is already in fact under way. You know, the picture that has been drawn for us is like this: There is $200 million in this package that can be used for forming an enhancement fund of one billion That enhancement fund, starting with the two hundred million fund in this treaty would be increased to one billion by getting money from multilaterals and governments. Japan has already pledged three hundred million. If we can add to that, making already half a billion.

Now this one billion enhanced fund will then be used in a debt reduction program that could add up to three point something billion dollars. It is there, except that the senators don't want to admit that it is there. They want their own trends. For instance, one of them said: "Well why don't we follow the example of Poland?"

Poland got a condonation, a tremendous condonation. Well first of all, we are not like Poland. Poland's debt is mostly official. Our debt is mostly private. We did include in the original package that we submitted last year a fifty million annual condonation, which was rejected by the Department of Treasury of the United States. But let us observe that when you get condoned in official debts, you get into problems with your financing program. Japan will not lend any money to a country who or which has had its official debt condoned. That's simply the reality. Now, we are getting, as you know, an annual yen loan program from Japan. That would disappear once we insisted, even if we were successful, which we probably will not, in getting some of our official debt condoned. But our official debt is not as big as our private debt. That is the target of the debt reduction program in this treaty. It is there. It's all ready...

[Puno, interrupting] Although it is not spelled out in black and white...

[Manglapus] No, no, no. It is the $200 million that is already in the package and that is just like the arrangement I had in 1988. Some of the money that I got was used for a debt reduction program by permission of the United States because at that time, Brady of the Department of Treasury, said no money, official money, whether international or national can be used [passage indistinct] debt reduction program I got in 1988 has yielded already 1.3 billion reduction. This is what is going to happen with the current agreement.

[Puno] So, in a word, this whole referendum process or initiative process should result in a situation where this agreement, the text, the document recently signed by you and Ambassador Wisner, would be the document that would be enforced?

[Manglapus] Ratified by the people.

[Puno] Ratified by the people.

[Manglapus] Let me just read very briefly a couple of lines from Fr. Bernas. He says, talking about "the presence of military forces in a sovereign territory is something of transcendental importance, hence, whether or not military bases or foreign troops should be kept in our nation is something that should be decided not just by the government but also by the people themselves, whom in the very first section we just approved in this declaration of principles, we recognize as the possessor of ultimate sovereignty.

[Puno] Alright, okay, I guess that is a very general principle, but you [words indistinct] that the people can ratify the treaty directly. That's what you are saying here. Okay, now we have less than a minute left, so I am going to ask this question and in light of what we have already talked about, Congressperson Lorna Verano-Yap has asked for your resignation. What do you think of that?

[Manglapus] You know that question was asked of me this morning by a foreign news person and I said all of us are doing our duty. I do not suppose you will want to ask the senators who voted against the treaty to resign should the people finally ratify it. I do not think you should. I think you should not blame them for standing for what they believe was right. What they did was doing their job for the people. I am doing my job for the people and what I have done, I am afraid, bad news for those who want me to resign, is approved by most of our people.

Manglapus on Call for Resignation

HK1909034491 Quezon City MALAYA in English 19 Sep 91 p 1

[By Ellen Tordesillas]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Raul S. Manglapus said he might consider resigning if the bases treaty he concluded with U.S. Special Negotiator Richard Armitage is rejected by the people in a referendum.

"If the will of the people finally decides against the treaty then that option (resignation) might be open," Manglapus said in a press conference Tuesday.

Manglapus, however, set another condition to his resignation: the senators who rejected the treaty should also resign if the people approved the accord in a referendum.

"I will consider resigning if those whose decision will be rejected in the referendum will also think the same," he said.

At least two senators, Leticia Shahani and Ernesto Maceda, and a congressman, Lorna Verano-Yap (LP [Liberal Party], Pasay City), have blamed Manglapus for the treaty which they described as "flawed, dishonest, and disadvantageous to the Filipino people."

They also criticized him for not consulting the senators and other senators during the negotiation.

Aquino Asked To Explain Recall

HK1809143691 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 18 Sep 91

[By Restie de Quiros, DZRH Unit 8]

[Text] Senate Minority Floor Leader Juan Ponce Enrile challenged Aquino to announce publicly whether or not the 1947 Military Bases Agreement is still valid as of the present time, despite the fact that it was clear the agreement expired 16 September 1991, at the same time the Senate rejected the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Security. According to Enrile, it is clearly stated in the Constitution that no foreign facilities or military troops must remain in the country after the expiration of the agreement unless there is a new treaty in existence. Enrile questioned Aquino's statement saying the American bases in the country can still stay even if there is no existing agreement. In relation to this, Enrile requested that President Corazon Aquino should explain to the public why she should not face criminal charges in the High Court when it is clear that she had violated the Constitution. Enrile stressed that the president had caused a serious constitutional crisis by recalling the notice of termination which was given last year to the United States for the continued retention of their military bases in the country. Enrile advised President Aquino that it would be better to accept the defeat of the treaty in order not to put it in Philippine minds that the president wanted to protect the interests of America rather than the country's Constitution of which she is committing a culpable violation.

[Begin Enrile recording in English] I would earnestly suggest to her to avoid any possible controversy about this. To gracefully accept defeat and, at the same time, the views in the minds of the Filipinos is that she is now more interested in protecting and upholding the interests of a foreign country than the enforcment of the mandate of her Constitution and upholding and protecting the interest of the nation under an agreement that has already lapsed [end recording]

Paredes Views Impeachment Issue

HK1909023491 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Malacanang expressed the view that the steps to impeach President Corazon Aquino will not succeed. Press Under Secretary Horacio Paredes said that the refusal of President Aquino to throw away the new treaty is not an issue for which she can be impeached by Congress.

It may be recalled that Senate Minority Floor Leader Juan Ponce Enrile said that President Aquino may be impeached for violating the Constitution. Enrile said that the call by Aquino for a referendum and the recall of the notice of termination of the 1947 military bases agreement is clear evidence of her violation of constitutional provisions. Enrile stressed in his news conference that this step by President Aquino may cause a constitutional crisis and is a betrayal of the contents of the Constitution. The senator explained that although he would have expected the United States to invoke the Ramos-Rusk agreement for a one-year withdrawal period, he would not have expected Mrs. Aquino and the foreign affairs secretary to invoke it.

U.S. Withdrawal in 6 Months Urged

HK1809143791 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] The U.S. facilities should be dismantled six months from now. This was stressed by the House progressive bloc in relation to the president's decision to allow the U.S. bases to remain until September 1992. Anna Soriano reports:

[Begin recording] Congressman Gregorio Andolana, group spokesman, is concerned because the Americans might bribe the incoming senators. Andolana denied the claim that the U.S. cannot withdraw its forces in so short a time because, he said that in only one day, the U.S. was able to bring and withdraw its troops in Kuwait when it was invaded by Iraq. [end recording]

Congressmen: No New Taxes Needed

HK1909085091 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 19 Sep 91 p 8

[By Fidel Asor Jr.]

[Text] No new taxes will be imposed to cover the projected revenue shortfall following a Senate rejection of the proposed bases treaty, members of the House of Representatives said yesterday.

The congressmen, led by Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr., were reacting to the announcement of Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao immediately after the Senate rejection of the treaty that the government plans to impose new taxes to cover the expected shortfall of about P[Philippine pesos]20 billion.

Estanislao said the revenue shortfall would not happen had the Senate ratified the treaty.

Mitra and Representative Enrique Garcia (LDP [Struggle of Filipino Democrats], Bataan), vice chairman of the committee of ways and means, and Amado Bagatsing (LDP, Manila) said the government could raise the amount without necessarily imposing new taxes.

They said the government should improve tax collection efficiency.

Bagatsing said the "people are already reeling from high prices and I am sure they can no longer absorb additional taxes."

Mitra proposed the sale of non-performing assets (NPAs) of the government to raise funds.

"The government can easily get P98 billion put of these NPAs," he said.

Cabinet Secretaries on Referendum

HK1909015291 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Not every member of President Aquino's cabinet is in agreement with the proposed referendum on the bases treaty. A Malacanang source revealed that four cabinetmen are not in favor of holding the referendum to allow the people to decide on whether to extend or terminate the U.S. bases stay.

Because of this, the source said that President Aquino immediately talked to the four cabinet members, namely Health Secretary Alfredo Bengzon, Department of Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Fulgencio Factoran, Tourism Secretary Rafael Alunan, and Trade and Industry Secretary Peter Garrucho.

Aside from the referendum, the four cabinetmen also oppose the government's withdrawal of the termination notice earlier served on the United States.

Rama Suggests People's Initiative

HK1909043091 Quezon City MALAYA in English 19 Sep 91 p 2

[By Shalom Mapagu]

[Text] Commissioner Dario Rama of the Commission on Elections [Comelec] yesterday said it is misleading to use the term "referendum" if what Malacanang is pushing for is a direct consultation with the people on the bases treaty issue.

Rama said Republic Act 6735 or the law on initiative and referendum defines referendum as "a petition to approve or reject an act or law, or part thereof passed by Congress."

The Senate resolution on non-concurrence does not fall under this category since it was passed by the Senate alone, he said.

Comelec Chairman Christian Monsod said a referendum can refer only to a national legislation passed by both houses of Congress. As such, Monsod added, the Senate's rejection of the treaty does not fall under the category of a referendum.

Rama said the most convenient option the government could take is to urge the people to amend Section 25, Article 18 of the Constitution through a "people's initiative." This provision states that no foreign troops or bases are to be allowed in the country after Sept. 16, 1991 except under a treaty concurred in by a two- thirds vote in the Senate.

However, Rama said, amendments can be introduced only five years after the ratification of the Constitution, or after Feb. 2, 1992.

"Malacanang can fulfill the legal prerequisites even before Feb. 2 but it cannot insist on holding the people's initiative by December if it will seek to amend Section 25, Article 18," Rama said.

Monsod agreed with Rama that the political exercise cannot be held in December not only because of clear constitutional provisions against it but also because of time constraints.

They said it would take at least three months before the poll body could set a date for the referendum—a month for petition signing on the holding of a referendum or initiative, a month to determine whether signatures gathered are enough, and another month to allow concerned parties to bring the issue to the Supreme Court.

Definitely, Rama added, the matter will be brought before the high court.

Monsod asked Malacanang to be "realistic" and consider the time constraints the poll body will be facing if a referendum is to be held this December.

Possible Constitutional Crisis Viewed

HK1909014491 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Senate President Jovito Salonga has expressed fears for a possible constitutional crisis due to steps taken by Malacanang to extend the stay of the U.S. military bases in the country in spite of the Senate's rejection.

Salonga said that he will call for an immediate meeting in the Senate to discuss how to avert a constitutional crisis which would result from the wrong step taken by Malacanang. A resolution will be passed by the Senate to demonstrate their stand on the decision to reject the bases treaty, and to ask President Aquino to accept and respect this decision by the Senate.

Salonga believes that Republic of the Philippines [RP]-U. S. relations will not be affected despite the Senate's rejection of the RP-U.S. Bases Treaty.

Continued U.S. Base Rent Urged

HK1909022791 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Reports from Caloy Castro and Mel Estonilo]

[Text] At the Malacanang, Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon said that the Aquino government is hoping that the United States will continue paying its annual compensation for the one-year bases withdrawal period.

Meanwhile, Malacanang may again submit the rejected Republic of the Philippines-U.S. Bases Treaty to the Senate once it is approved by the people in the referendum to be conducted. This was confirmed to Malacanang reporters by Press Undersecretary Horacio Paredes.

Paredes explained that Malacanang may submit the signed treaty to the next group of senators who win the 1992 elections, once the voice of the people prevails in the referendum. Paredes also said that Malacanang will no longer pursue an earlier plan to amend the Constitution to pave the way for a direct ratification of the treaty by the people.

At the same time, Paredes defended the action of the government to recall the notice of termination served to the U.S., giving the latter one more year using Subic Naval Base. The press undersecretary said that during the American forces one-year stay at Subic, they will still pay compensation as stipulated in the 1947 military bases agreement.

Con-Com Members Against Referendum

HK1909050991 Quezon City MALAYA in English 19 Sep 91 pp 1, 2

[By Cris Larano]

[Text] Fifteen members of the 1986 Constitutional Commission yesterday warned President Aquino that she will violate the Constitution if she pushes through with the planned referendum to salvage the bases treaty rejected by the Senate.

In an open letter to President Aquino, the constitutional commissioners, led by former Supreme Court Associate Justice Cecilia Munoz Palma, Con-Com [Constitutional Commission] chairman, and former Sen. Ambrosio Padilla, vice-chairman, said: "We believe tht the process recently announced by your office to reverse this decision will violate the 1987 Constitution, undermine constitutional stability and further divide our people."

They said Sec. 25 of the charter's transitory provisions was "deliberately worked out" to be "a considered, detailed and specific process to guide future action after the expiration of the military bases agreement."

They said that although the Constitution allows for direct participation of the people, "it cannot supersede the specific constitutional provisions concerning foreign military bases, troops or facilities in the Philippines."

They also pointed out that the referendum provided in Sec. 25, Art. 18 "is one that is called for the purpose of securing the people's vote on a treaty concurred in by the Senate and not to a treaty rejected by the same body." [sentence as published]

They appealed to Mrs. Aquino to scuttle the plan because "the need of the hour is for our people to come together and undertake the necessary sacrifices and show solidarity to those most in need in this difficult period."

The other commissioners who signed the letter were Felicitas Aquino, Joaquin Bernas, Edmundo Garcia, Minda Luz Quezada, Rene Sanmiento, Wilfrido Villacorta, Christine Tan, Ponciano Bennagen, Florangel

Rosario Braid, Jose Luis Martin Gascon, Former Sen. Francisco Rodrigo, Jose Suarez and Efrain Trenas.

Aquino Reconsiders Referendum

HK1909105891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1035 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Manila, Sept 19 (AFP)—President Corazon Aquino began back-tracking Thursday on a referendum over U.S. bases in the Philippines, under the threat of impeachment and the prospect of dividing the country.

"I will continue to take soundings of the people's wishes and will decide on a course of action," she said in a statement but added: "Certainly, if the idea of (a referendum) does not have support of the people, it will be abandoned."

Aquino said that her "natural bent" was to pursue a referendum, but admitted that some of her supporters who campaigned for the base treaty's approval were now urging her to drop the idea.

She also began distancing herself from the referendum preparations, saying "the initiative is more correctly pursued by private groups, organizations and individuals."

The Philippine Senate rejected a new 10-year bases treaty with the United States on Monday and called for an end to nearly one century of U.S. military presence in this former colony.

Aquino refused to accept defeat, sugesting a referendum to challenge the decision and provisionally extending the lapsed U.S. base agreement.

Opponents described both moves as unconstitutional and warned that Aquino could be liable for impeachment if she refused to respect the Senate's prerogative to ratify or reject the treaty.

Aquino said she could reverse the Senate vote by using an untested law allowing for a people's "initiative" to question any act of congress.

Under this scheme, a referendum can be held if a petition for it is signed by 10 percent of the country's estimated 30 million voters. Aquino aides said that if a referendum went in favor of the treaty, it would be ratified by "people power."

But critics said the treaty would still have to go back to the Senate for ratification unless the Constituiton was amended.

Senators who opposed the treaty have offered Aquino and Washington a compromise three-year pullout to soften the impact of a sudden withdrawal on both countries.

Meanwhile, ruling party Congressman Raul Roco, principal author of the people's initiative law, said Thursday that trying to overturn the treaty with a referendum "may be a violation" of the Constitution. But he said this was not sufficient ground to impeach Aquino.

He urged the business sector, predominantly in favor of the U.S. military presence, to "plead with the president to stop the debate," which he warned could "polarize the country".

A group of lawyers identified with the political opposition meanwhile announced Thursday they were ready to petition the Supreme Court to contest Aquino's plan to call a referendum once she set a date for the exercise.

Lawyer Rene Cayetano, a close associate of right-wing opposition Senator Juan Ponce Enrile, said the referendum would be "blatantly violative" of the Constitution.

Enrile, who voted against treaty ratification, called for Aquino's impeachment after she extended the U.S. Subic Naval Base lease pending a referendum on the issue.

He said the extension was a "treasonous" violation of the Constitution, grounds for impeaching a president.

But politicians and analysts said such a move was almost certain to fail given the overwhelming dominance of her allies in the 201- member lower house, the proximity of the May 1992 national elections and the unpopularity of Vice President Salvador Laurel.

The Constitution vests the 23-member Senate with exclusive powers to ratify the treaty, but gives the lower house sole power to initiate impeachment.

Meanwhile, Air Force Chief Loven Abadia said Thursday that rejection of the treaty could be a "blessing in disguise" for the country's Armed Forces.

He said it would hamper the Philippine military's modernization program but not derail it.

"Maybe it is a blessing in disguise. Maybe we will learn to take care of ourselves," he said.

More than half the 203-million dollar annual bases compensation package promised by the U.S. Government was earmarked for military equipment and Filipino troop training.

Critics have said the U.S. presence here has led to overdependence on Washington, which they accused of supplying decrepit military equipment.

The Philippine military has World War II vintage equipment still being used by low-paid troops.

Aquino's Referendum Call Clarified

HK1909061291 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Italicized passages in English]

[Text] Press Secretary Buddy Gomez said in his radio program "Clarification and Opinion" on Radyo ng

Bayan that the holding of a referendum on the Republic of the Philippines-U.S. Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Security was presented after the dialogue between President Aquino and the multisectoral groups. The secretary added that no final steps were taken by the government regarding the referendum because it is up to the decision of the multisectoral group. Nonetheless Gomez stressed that all steps are being considered by the government to prepare for any effect that might result from the Senate's rejection of the treaty.

[Begin Gomez recording] The president continues to have dialogue with the representatives of the multisectoral groups that were asking the president to continue holding this. *Where there is nothing final about that right now,* while even if Aquino continues to have consultations, we are also preparing for this. Even if we are preparing for this, all other projects that should have been started have been further facilitated. The only problem we have here is there are so many projects there that should have been started that might have helped the country, and *projects that were intended with the expectation that Clark Air Base for instance is going to leave,* meaning it will be vacant, are still pending in the Senate. [end recording]

Poll Body on Referendum Timing

HK1909015991 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] The Commission on Elections confirmed that no referendum will be held this year, which was being planned by the Aquino government. Here is Gray Timbol with more details.

[Begin recording] The Commission on Elections or Comelec confirmed that no referendum will be held by the end of this year because the law and the provisions of Comelec dictated it. According to Comelec Commissioner Magtara Dimaampao, the first referendum on the Constitution was last held on 2 February 1987. The validity of the last referendum remains effective until 2 February 1992 based on the five years stated by the law. Dimaampoa said that it is not possible to hold two referenda within a five-year period as stipulated by the law, and that this would violate the Constitution. In relation to this, Dimaampao said that if the referendum is to be held together with the national elections in the month of May 1992, voters will have a hard time deciding many issues during the election. [end recording]

Senators Predict U.S. Interference

HK1909091491 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 19 Sep 91

[By Restie de Quiros of DZRH unit No. 8]

[Text] Three antibases senators believe that the United States will actively interfere in the upcoming Philippine elections to guarantee that the politicians who will be appointed to the government are on their side when it comes to the retention of the U.S. military facilities at Subic Naval Base.

Three veteran politicians, Senate President Jovito Salonga, Senator Aquilino Pimentel, and Juan Ponce Enrile, Senate minority floor leader, said that Washington will try to influence the upcoming May 1992 elections to make sure that the officials of the legislative or the Congress would be those who will easily go along with the wishes of the United States, particularly on the issue of the military bases.

Pimentel warned that the next step of the Americans would be to meddle in the new base negotiations and the new administration of the Philippines. Pimentel mentioned two possible scenarios resulting from the rejection of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Security: one is the legal means of continuing to retain the U.S. troops and facilities at Subic for one more year, and the second is the illegal way by means of initiating violence against the civilian government. Pimentel did not mention which of the two means will be used.

Meanwhile, Salonga cited that the Marcos regime was supported by the United States because Marcos assured the retention of the military bases when he was still in power.

Aquino Denies Pressure From U.S.

HK1909110291 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] In Malacanang, President Aquino stressed that the United States has no involvement in the plan by the executive department to hold a referendum on the treaty. Tanny Rodriguez reports:

[Begin recording] This was the president's reaction regarding the reported appeal by U.S. President George Bush to the U.S. Congress to approve the $360 million compensation for the use of Subic Naval Base for 1991 and 1992. In a press statement, the president said that whatever steps the United States may or may not take, they will have no effect on the decisions made in the Philippines in relation to the initiative by the people.

At the same time and in response to the accusations of some senators like Joseph Estrada, who said he wondered why Malacanang should hold on like a leech to the United States despite the Senate's rejection, the president said the pressure pushing her to go ahead with the referendum did not come from any country but from the Filipinos themselves. [end recording]

Meanwhile, the president assured that the holding of a referendum is based on national interest. Tanny Rodriguez has the details:

[Begin recording] The president issued the statement in the face of the alleged absence of support from the members of the Constitutional Commission [Concom], headed by Concom President Cecilia Munoz Palma, for the government's action to submit to the people the bases-treaty issues through a referendum or initiative despite their previous expresssion of support. The president clarified that it is not only Malacanang, but most of all private groups, organizations, and the people who are pressing for the initiative or referendum on this issue. The president said that if the people do not support the referendum or initiative, this will not proceed, especially if the 10 percent vote from the people is not obtained. [end recording]

Aquino Impeachment Attempt Viewed

HK1909080091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0731 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Manila, Sep 19 (AFP)—Efforts to impeach President Corazon Aquino for defying the Senate vote to end the U.S. military presence in the Philippines are unlikely to prosper, politicians and analysts said here Thursday.

The overwhelming dominance of her allies in the lower house—the main impeachment forum—as well as the proximity of the May 1992 national elections and the prospect of Vice President Salvador Laurel replacing her, all work against the idea, they said.

Opposition leader Juan Ponce Enrile, one of the senators who voted down a 10-year base treaty with the United States, urged her impeachment after she extended the U.S. lease on Subic Naval Base pending a referendum on the issue.

Enrile charged that the provisional extension was a "treasonous" violation of the Constitution—one of the possible grounds for impeaching a president.

But while the Constitution vests the 23-member Senate with exclusive powers to ratify the treaty—which Aquino wants to contest in the referendum —it gives the 201-member lower house the sole power to initiate impeachment.

Francisco Nemenzo, a prominent political scientist from the state-run University of the Philippines, said Aquino had a "hold" on the lower house which would make it "very difficult" to unseat her.

The Constitution requires that at least one-third of the house, or 67 members, support an impeachment motion, before it goes before the Senate for a trial to be presided over by the chief justice of the Supreme Court.

There are less than 50 opposition and independent members in the house, where Speaker Ramon Mitra, an Aquino loyalist, wields a big stick in ensuring loyalty within the ruling Struggle for a Democratic Philippines (LDP).

No president of the Philippines has ever been subjected to an impeachment trial. Even the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos quashed an impeachment move by the opposition in 1985, when his regime was nearing collapse.

Opposition politician Homobono Adaza, who led the impeachment campaign against Marcos and tried a similar move against Aquino last year, admitted that the chances of the new impeachment call succeeding were "not bright."

But he added that "the name of the game is to inform the country that Cory is violating the Constitution."

Assistant majority floorleader Raul Roco said an impeachment move "doesn't seem likely" to prosper even beyond a house committee that would determine whether such charges deserved to be studied by the entire congress.

Even if by some fluke the impeachment process survives the committee, the rules say it could take three months to bring the issue before the Senate.

With only eight months to go before the May 1992 presidential, congressional and local elections, the idea of going through an excruciating impeachment process is unlikely to take off.

Moreover, Aquino has ruled out a reelection bid, leaving the field open for would-be successors, like Enrile and Laurel.

Nemenzo said the Laurel factor could also hurt the impeachment bid.

He said he was "outraged" by Aquino's moves to keep American troops in the country after the Senate decision, but "when you think that the replacement is Laurel, I don't think it's much of an improvement."

Laurel broke away from Aquino in 1987 to lead the right-wing opposition, but remains Aquino's legal successor if she is unable to complete her term.

Popularity surveys put Laurel, who has been linked to failed military plots against Aquino, well behind other Aquino rivals and presidential aspirants, trailing even the president herself despite her plummeting ratings.

Laurel is often likened to U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle, whose presidential capabilities and election prospects have been put in doubt by surveys among American voters.

Senator Rene Saguisag, one of the Aquino allies who voted against the base treaty, said impeachment was "out of the question," warning that it would not be in the national interest "to deepen our divisions further."

"The nation is calling for a ceasefire between the executive and the Senate," he said in a statement.

Impeachment, like treaty ratification, requires a two-thirds vote of the Senate to succeed. All but two of the 23 senators were elected in 1987 on Aquino's ticket.

Bank Privatization Plan Deferred

HK1909090091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0843 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Manila, Sept 19 (AFP) - The state-controlled Philippine National Bank (PNB) plans to defer the second phase of its privatization from October to early 1992 because of "unfavorable market conditions," its president announced Thursday.

PNB Chief Edgardo Espiritu said in a statement that he had recommended to President Corazon Aquino that the planned 19 per cent stock offer—following the sale of 30 per cent in 1989—might be affected by the controversy over U.S. bases in the country.

Espiritu said in a statement that the new offer, involving 14.54 million shares with more than half to be offered to foreign investors, might suffer from a "general waning" of interest abroad in strong Philippine issues.

Philippine stock prices have plummeted since the Senate threw out a new bases treaty with the United States. A political impasse has emerged here after Aquino provisionally extended the 10-year U.S. lease on Subic Naval Base pending a referendum challenging the Senate decision.

Espiritu said the effect of the base dispute was likely to be short-term, and the new PNB issue could be expanded to 21 per cent early next year, giving private investors a majority stake in the bank for the first time.

PNB is one of the most profitable firms in the country, reporting a net income of 3.3 billion pesos (122 million dollars) on revenues of 10.7 billion pesos (396 million dollars) in 1990.

Assets totalled 73.7 billion pesos (2.7 billion dollars) last year.

U.S. Bases Seen as Election Issue

HK1909085291 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 18 Sep 91 p 6

[Editorial: "Withdrawal of Termination Notice Permissible Under Circumstances]

[Text] On May 15, 1990, the Philippine government notified the United States government that the 1947 Military Bases Agreement would terminate on September 16, 1991. However, at the conclusion of the exploratory talks held three days later, U.S. special negotiator Ambassador Richard Armitage made it clear that the U.S. was interpreting the 1947 agreement as amended. He contended that a termination notice could not be served before September 16, 1991, a position reiterated in Note No. 486 of the U.S. embassy dated June 26, 1990. Since the notice of termination that the government withdrew was dated May 15, 1990, or prior to September 16, 1991, there are grounds to say that the termination notice was premature. It could be argued, of course, that the very same termination notice can be served now since the September 16, 1991 prohibition has already lapsed.

The thing is that under the present circumstances, both countries have absolutely nothing to lose if the U.S. continues staying in Subic until September 16, 1992. That is only a year away.

In the meantime, we will be holding a national election. A plebiscite could be held at the same time or separately as to how the people feel about the U.S. naval base in Subic. It could, in fact, be one of the party issues of the 1992 national elections. One party can champion the cause of the 10-year extension of the U.S. bases; the other can campaign for its termination on September 16, 1992. The public will be electing the president, vice president, senators, congressmen and other officials, according to their stand on the bases issue.

The U.S. naval base may be one of the issues, if not the main issue in the coming elections. Vital national matters should really be decided at the polls.

The 1992 elections is only 8 months away. It is reasonable to give the termination notice to September 16, 1992 to get a second opinion from the people themselves. Meanwhile, we should continue working as usual for the economic progress of the country.

Conflict Clouds Investment Climate

HK1909072591 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 19 Sep 91 p 4

[Editorial: "A State of Suspended Animation]

[Text] In its obstinate search for a legal weapon to defeat the rejection by the Senate of the draft treaty on the United States military bases, the Aquino government has succeeded in finding a loophole that might allow the American forces to stay at least until the people shall have spoken in a referendum.

The loophole came in the form of the withdrawal by the government of a termination notice served the U.S. on May 15 last year. If that notice had not been lifted, the U.S. forces could not have stayed beyond last Monday. The withdrawal notice is based on the 1966 Ramos-Rusk agreement, which has been interpreted by the government to mean that such a notice "could not be served until after 16 September 1991" and that, by implication, U.S. troops could stay in the country, despite the Senate rejection, until the people decide the fate of the bases in a referendum.

In an apparent synchronization, a State Department spokesman, Richard Boucher, said that the current military bases agreement allowed U.S. forces to stay until September 1992. The implications of the reversal of the May notice are as follows: first, through executive fiat, the immediate withdrawal of U.S. forces has been suspended; and, second, the government has set the stage for a referendum. In effect, the government has blunted the impact of the Senate vote and has paved the way for an open-ended stay of the U.S. forces.

Following the Senate vote, the bases issue has not been extinguished. It has shifted to the legal arena, where the battle is now over the interpretation of constitutional provisions, as well as those of the current bases agreement as amended—that is, by the 1966 Ramos-Rusk agreement. The fallback by the U.S. and the Philippine government on a legal technicality not only delays the departure of the American forcs; it suggests that the U.S. is trying to buy time in the hope that a referendum would override the Senate's action.

In short, there is now a battle between lawyers. In this arena, Filipinos are well known for their fastidiousness and fussiness about the fine print of the law. We can expect a protracted fight reaching to the Supreme Court. If the Filipinos could not put their economic house in order, they could at least be counted upon to impede economic recovery in a net of legal cases.

What these legal complications amount to is that uncertainty continues to hover in the horizon over the direction of this country. It will take time to clear the air over the bases. In the meantime, the investment climate will remain clouded until it is finally decided what we really want about the bases.

The executive and the Senate are locked in mortal legal combat, to the delight of the lawyers, but the pressing need is to establish once for all what the playing field will be like. Nations and groups interested in taking part in the economic recovery of this country would prefer that we make a decisive choice about the bases regardless of our decision. Then, they can calculate their costs and risks. Prolonged litigations could probably bring heavier political and economic costs than a temporary economic dislocation stemming from a clear period of departure of American forces. What has now developed over moves to go around the Senate rejection of the treaty is a state of suspended animation which engenders continuing political and economic instability.

U.S. Offers 'Lethal Weapons' to Armed Forces

HK1809085291 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 18 Sep 91 p 10

[By Ma. Caridad S. Baustista]

[Text] The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), specifically its chief of staff and major service commanders who actively called for the ratification of a new basing agreement with the United States, was offered by the U.S. a supply of "lethal weapons."

This was revealed to reporters yesterday by Philippine Navy chief Rear Admiral Mariano J. Dumancas. He said," Under the Excess Defense Articles (EDA) they were willing to provide lethal weapons."

"In fact," he added," they indicated that they will supply us guns and missiles for aircrafts and patrol ships."

AFP chief of staff Gen. Lisandro C. Abadia, in a previous interview, said the U.S. was not willing to provide the AFP "lethal weapons." The Air Force chief, Maj. Gen. Loven C. Abadia also said the same thing when asked by BUSINESS-WORLD.

Admiral Dumancas would not say the reasons for this change-of-heart. Other officials surmised it was a "sweetener" to strengthen the military's support for the treaty ratification campaign.

The U.S. offered to provide $150 million in EDA for seven years in addition to the $203 million annual compensation for the use of Subic Naval Base. However, the U.S. said it would provide only nonlethal materiel like jeeps, trucks and communications and engineering equipment.

Although the U.S. has been the country's main supplier of armor, it has been reluctant to provide modern combat weapons and concentrated instead on filling the AFP's mobility and communications deficiencies.

The AFP wanted the weapons to ease its shift from the counter-insurgency to the external defense mode. The weapons described by the navy chief indicated they were directed mainly at beefing up the AFP's external defense capabilities.

Top military officials have expressed concern that the AFP, already burdened by the communist insurgency, is lagging behind its counterparts in the Southeast Asian region.

They were banking on the bases compenation package to help defray the cost of modernization, which is estimated to cost around $7 billion for a period of ten years.

Government Urged To Buy Weaponry From PRC

HK1909031491 Quezon City MALAYA in English 19 Sep 91 p 2

[By Romy Tangbawan]

[Text] Senators Juan Ponce Enrile (NP) [Nationalist Party] and Ernesto Maceda (PMP) [Party of the Filipino Masses] yesterday urged government to start considering the purchase of military equipment from China as they declared their full support for the modernization of the Armed Forces.

The two senators, who joined 10 others in thrashing the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. military bases treaty, said it is time the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] cut its decades of dependence on the United States, which it blamed for the military's failure to improve its external defense capability.

Apart from the cheaper cost of procuring military equipment from China, they said, the transaction would improve the friendship between the Philippines and the Asian military power.

The Armed Forces was supposed to get $103 million yearly out of the $203 million compensation provided by the treaty for the use of Subic Naval Base by U.S. troops.

In a public hearing of the Senate finance subcommittee on the AFP's 1992 budget attended by Defense Secretary Renato de Villa and AFP chief of staff Gen. Lisandro Abadia, Maceda said they are supporting the proposed P [Philippine peso] 19.59 AFP budget, apart from a proposed supplemental budget to maintain the bases turned over by U.S. forces.

Maceda, who chairs the defense and security committee and who sits in the powerful Commission on Appointments, said he is also withdrawing his objection to the confirmation of De Villa as defense chief Enrile said he, too, will vote for De Villa.

Abadia, Honasan Said To Meet in Camp Aquinaldo

HK1909033791 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Sources reveal talks were held recently between former Colonel Gregorio Gringo Honasan and General Lisandro Abadia, Armed Forces of the Philipines chief of staff, in the house of a general inside Camp Aquinaldo last week. Based on the sources' revelation, Honasan was wearing military uniform and gave Abadia due respect by means of a salute before the start of the dialogue. However, the sources in Camp Aquinaldo did not mention how Honasan was able to enter Camp Aquinaldo when security there was very tight. It is recalled that Camp Aquinaldo was occupied by Honasan's group during the August 1987 coup attempt. General Abadia refused to confirm the said report. Abadia said that he is copying the Americans' no denial, no confirmation policy on the said news.

Police Officials Release 20 'Rightist' Detainees

HK1709105091 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 17 Sep 91 p 3

[By Dario B. Agnote]

[Text] Philippine National Police [PNP] officials yesterday announced the provisional release of 20 detained officers and men of the defunct Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police (PC- INP) implicated in at least three destabilization attempts by extreme rightist forces against the Aquino government.

The release of the 20 brought the total number of freed mutinous officers and men to 68.

PNP Director General Cesar Nazareno said the release of the 20 former PC-INP officers and men was in line with the reconciliation efforts initiated by the Armed Forces leadership to unite the fractious military.

Nazareno said the 20, including seven Constabulary captains, would be under his custody while their cases were being reviewed by the military tribunal. He said the newly freed PC-INP officers and men, who were detained at the Camp Crame stockade, were involved in the January 1987 siege of television station GMA [Greater Manila Arts]-7 and the bloody August 1987 and December 1989 coup tries.

Following are the names of those freed: Captains Leovic Dioneda, Reynaldo Rafal, Diosdado Valeroso, Jessie Ariola, Leonardo Villanueva, Cesar Valencia and Antonio de la Cruz; first lieutenants Magno Biag and Demetrio Mamaed;

Master Sergeant Abundio Soriano; staff sergeants Camilo Ordinario, Wilfredo Lina and Ariel Gumban; sergeants Miguel Duco and Rodolfo Fuentes; constables first class Eden Portillo, Gregorio Labual, Armando Telles and Nestor Tersero; and, C2C [constable 2nd class] Manolo Valdez.

Dioneda, Rafal and the 17 other officers and men were all present when Nazareno announced their provisional release at Camp Crame yesterday. Valeroso, who has been allowed to go in and out of the Crame detention cell during the past weeks, was conspicuously absent. Sources said he was again out on pass.

General Lisandro C. Abadia, AFP chief of staff, ordered the temporary liberty of the 68 detained mutinous officers and men to lure coup leaders Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan, Domingo Calajate, Felix Turingan and other fugitive military rebels to "surface" and dialog with the government.

Abadia formed the so-called Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabayan (RAM [Reform the Armed Forces Movement]) exploratory group (REG) to reach out for Honasan and his comrades who have been trying to overthrow the coup-plagued Aquino Administration.

Three Rebel Officers Said Ready To Surrender

HK1909034091 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Three high-ranking officers of the Reformed the Armed Forces-Soldiers of the Filipino People-Young Officers Union are set to surrender to the government without condition. This was revealed by Defense Secretary Renato de Villa in a news conference held yesterday in Malacanang. However, De Villa refused to reveal the names of the officers who are to surrender because it might impede the ongoing negotiations. Nonetheless, sources revealed the names of the three officers. The group were formerly in Colonel Gringo Honasan's group and they are Commodore Domingo Calajate, Navy Captain Felix Turingan, and former Philippine Constabulary Lieutenant Colonel Rodolfo Tora. During the meeting of the combined Senate Finance Subcommittee and Economic Affairs Committee, De Villa stressed that the Defense Department and President Aquino continue to support all the steps made by General Lisandro Abadia, Armed Forces of the Philippines chief of staff, regarding the rebel soldiers as long as they continue to follow the policy on reconciallation and justice of the government. For Abadia's part, he confirmed that he can bring Honasan's group back to the side of the government. Abadia said he personally knows the rebel soldiers because most of them happened to be his students and they have great respect for him.

Rebel Soldier Emissaries Report Back to Abadia

HK1909140391 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 19 Sep 91

[By Fernan Imberga, DZRH Unit 22]

[Text] All seven high-ranking rebel soldiers were sent back to their detention center after they were temporarily set free as emissaries of General Lisandro Abadia, Armed Forces of the Philippines chief of staff, in order to talk to Colonel Gringo Honasan. In relation to this, Abadia expressed satisfaction at the result of the mission by the rebel officers, prior to the chief of staff leaving a while ago for a meeting with his counterpart in Bangkok, General Sunthon Kongsomphong. The seven emissaries were Brigadier General Eduardo Abenina of the Philippine Army, Brigadier General Jose Comenador of the Air Force, former Army Major Abraham Puruganan, former Philippine Constabulary Lieutenant Colonels Vic Batac, Eduardo Marteliano, Romilino Goho, and Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Oscar Legaspi. Abenina, Comenador, Legaspi, and Goho were detained again in Camp Aquinaldo while Puruganan, Batac, and Marteliano were returned to the Camp Crame Detention Center. Even though Abadia refused to give details on the result of the mission by the emissaries, he said that the result of the mission was very positive. Abadia was hoping that some of the emissaries whom he set free will return in order to report back to Defense Secretary Renato de Villa while the chief of staff is abroad.

Police Capture 3 'High-Ranking' NPA Officials

HK1609061091 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Three high-ranking officials of the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army [NPA] have been captured by elements of the Philippine National Police [PNP]. In a report sent to PNP Director General Cesar Nazareno, the arrested rebels were identified as Danny Tatad, Antonio Viscayno and Rogelio Lintag. Tatad is commander of the Nueva Vizcaya-Quirino-Ifugao-Benguet Party Committee and carries a price of 30,000 Philippine pesos on his head. The three were arrested in separate places in Central Luzon.

Sison Wishes To Mediate Proposed Peace Talks

HK1709123591 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Text] Jose Maria Sison, suspected head of the Communist Party of the Philippines, will try to come back into the Philippines. Sison said that he wished to mediate in the proposed peace talk between communist rebels and the government. Sison has been living for several years in the Netherlands. Sison called on the government to issue him a passport in the shortest possible time.

Police To Arrest Sison on Arrival

HK1809141391 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 18 Sep 91

[By Fernan Imberga of DZRH Unit No. 22]

[Text] The Philippine National Police [PNP] will arrest Communist Party Chairman Jose Maria [Joma] Sison should he come back into the country. According to PNP spokesman Colonel Reynaldo Wicoco, an arrest warrant against Joma Sison was issued by Judge Apolonio Chavez Jr. of Pasig Regional Trial Court on an antisubversion charge. On the other hand, Sison may be set free if he posts a bail of 200,000 Philippine pesos. Wicoco also said that only President Aquino can decide on whether Sison would be granted a safe conduct pass in order that he may come home to serve as mediator in the scheduled peace talks between the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army-National Democratic Front and the government.

[Begin Wicoco recording] He mentioned during the radio interview that he has plans to come over and join the peace talks. As I mentioned, we are not rejecting this. Of course, anything about peace, we welcome it. But we just want to say that Joma at this time has a pending warrant of arrest. So, because of that court order or warrant of arrest, the law enforcement authorities will be forced to arrest him once he enters the country. [end recording]

Official Rejects Sison as Mediator

HK1809141591 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Jose Maria Sison is not the right person to mediate between the government and the communist rebels on the issue of peace talks. This was announced by the House Committee on Public Order and Security. Anna Soriano has the details:

[Begin recording] Congressman Rodrigo Gutang, vice chairman of the committee, said that the person who should act as a mediator in peace talks is someone with a neutral stand on the issue. He cited former President Diosdado Macapagal or any retired Supreme Court judge. According to Congressman Gregorio Andolana, the mediator should be a party which both the government and the communist rebels trust. Andolana proposes that the peace talk proposal be mediated by the National Council of Churches in the Philippines and the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines. [end recording]

Aquino Rejects Sison Offer

HK1809141791 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0557 GMT 18 Sep 91

[By Tanny Rodriguez in Malacanang]

[Text] President Aquino today rejected the offer by the National Democratic Front-Communist Party of the Philippines [NDF-CPP] to have direct talks with the government in relation to the NDF's declaration of a unilateral cease-fire. This rejection came after Jose Maria Sison, alleged chairman of the CPP-New People's Army [NPA], said he was willing to mediate in these talks between the NDF and the government on the cease-fire. Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon said the government would not agree to this offer by Sison because the CPP-NPA itself has no control over its members. This, Drilon said, is evident from the killing of a police superintendent in Bulacan by an NPA Sparrow Unit shortly after the NDF declared the cease-fire. However, Drilon assured that the government continues to implement peace talks on several chosen provinces or on a local level.

Marag Valley Area Said Under Military Control

HK1709120991 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Text] The Marag Valley is now under military control as a result of a massive military offensive that was launched against New People's Army rebels who were camped in the area. The control of the area began with the raising of the Philippine flag which has not been raised in the Marag Valley for more than 11 years. The Marag Valley was returned to the government by the succesful launching of "Oplan Silawan" ["Blinding Plan"] by men of the 503d Brigade under the leadership of Colonel Roberto Manlongat.

Government Wants 'Concrete Signals' From Rebels

HK1809094191 Hong Kong AFP in English 0928 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Manila, Sept 18 (AFP) - The Philippine Government on Wednesday demanded more concrete signals from communist insurgents before it responds to the rebels' offer for talks aimed at ending the 22-year-old civil war.

The insurgent coalition National Democratic Front (NDF) declared a nationwide unilateral ceasefire last week and offered direct peace talks Tuesday after the Senate rejected a new, 10-year military base treaty with the United States.

"While this may be an opportunity to take a second look at our internal security problems from the direction of non-military efforts, we have said that we would like to see something more substantial from their side rather than the mere public declaration," Defense Secretary Renato de Villa said.

He told a Senate Defense Committee hearing that he based his reaction "on our experiences with them and our assessments on where they are now and what probably they would like to use the opportunity for."

He cited five cases of alleged insurgent violations of their own ceasefire, which had left eight soldiers, policemen and a civilian dead since the truce came into effect on September 11.

President Corazon Aquino has long maintained that the insurgency is in its death throes with the unravelling of communist parties in the Soviet Union and eastern Europe.

She has asked senior aides to explore peace talks on the local level with a few of the guerrilla fronts in the country.

"The security conditions, the peace and order conditions vary from region to region, province to province, and town to town ... we will probably make progress" on the national level "if we can have a peace process at the local level," De Villa said.

Senate Defense Committee chairman Ernesto Maceda suggested at the hearing that at least three area commanders of the insurgents' armed wing, the New People's Army (NPA), "should come out openly to say they are supporting the ceasefire."

He said there were only five major guerrilla fronts in the country at the moment.

Meanwhile, on the right-wing military renegades who have launched seven unsuccessful rebellions against Aquino, De Villa said the government expected "some underground leaders to come out very soon" to start peace talks with Manila.

Armed Forces Chief General Lisandro Abadia has released 68 jailed officers awaiting trial for alleged participation in coup attempts, as a sign of good faith in the proposed talks.

The fugitives who will surface "will turn themselves in under military control. These are ranking officers, but definitely not Honasan," he said, referring to the top rebel military leader, former Army Colonel Gregorio Honasan.

Meanwhile, Senator Maceda said Wednesday that the Armed Forces could expect a more sympathetic Congress as they embark on a long-term modernization program without the blessings of the United States.

Maceda, who was among 12 who voted against the treaty, said the 103 million dollars in yearly military aid contained in the treaty was to have been used to finance part of the the military's long-range modernization program worth a total six billion dollars.

With its rejection, Maceda said Congress had instructed De Villa during a committee hearing Wednesday to come up with a revised proposal so that "every year, there will be automatic appropriation."

He argued that the Senate vote "might be a blessing in disguise" since "we will be sympathetic to providing everything they need for modernization."

He said he saw no disruptions in any of the defense department's ongoing programs.

The proposed military budget for 1992 is 19.5 billion pesos (722 million dollars), up from 17.1 billion pesos (633 million dollars) this year.

With the projected U.S. military pullout, Manila would now have to take care of external defense as well as internal security. Military officials here have said that equipment-wise, the Philippine Armed Forces is at least 10 years behind its Southeast Asian neighbors.

NPA in Bicol Reportedly Resorting to Robbery

HK1909080291 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 18 Sep 91 p 8

[By Jen Jorvina]

[Text] Pili, Camarines Sur—Two New People's Army (NPA) rebels, who were arrested recently by Army soldiers for a series of robberies but who later escaped from the PNP [Philippine National Police] detention cell of the Bato town, said that the NPA has fielded five teams composed of three persons each to rob business establishments and rich residents of Bicol, the 201st Army Brigade headquarters reported.

The rebels were identified as Marlon Intia, 17, alias "Ka [Comrade] Don-don," and his brother Tony, 25, Alias "Ka Daril," both of Mainit, Bato, this province.

In a report to Col. Victor A. Mayo, 201st Army Brigade commander, Maj. Panfilo B. Gonzales, 2nd Infantry Battalion commander based in barangay Matacong, Polangui, Albay, said that the two rebels have confirmed reports that the NPA has shifted its operations to robbery-holdups due to the failure of its "revolutionary taxation" drive in the Rinconada area and Albay.

Major Gonzales reported that the Intia brothers escaped while under the custody of Bato PNP station. They were charged with robbery under Criminal Case No. 6556 and a warrant for arrest was issued by the municipal trial court of Nabua town.

Gonzales said that the other Intia brother, Carlos, was earlier captured by his men.

Communist Rebels Violate Cease-Fire in Quezon

HK1809135591 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 18 Sep 91

[By Benjie de Galicia]

[Text] The New People's Army [NPA] violated their declaration of a unilateral cease-fire with the Armed Forces of the Philippines after they attempted to ambush one platoon of the Philippine National Police at Barangay Tumbaga, Taryaya, Quezon [place name as heard] at 0700 [2300 GMT17 September] this morning. In his report to Senior Superintendent Rex Piad, Quezon PNP provincial director, Chief Inspector Nowie Wong, 237th District director, said that the NPA Luzon-Mayon District Committee failed in their attempt to ambush the members of the 237th PNP assigned to the Barangay Bukal Detachment in that area after ten minutes firing.

In the report, it was said that the authorities were conducting a regular security patrol when they encountered more than twenty armed NPA personnel. Confiscated from the battle area were subversive documents used by the Communist Party of the Philippines for their nationwide course for the masses, strategic plans for the last quarter of 1991, and personal belongings. No casualties were reported on either side.

Meanwhile, former high-ranking NPA leader Gregorio Rosal, alias Comrade Roger and now known as Comrade Pablo, spokesman of the Minitoglor Command has ceased to be NPA spokesman for the southern Tagalog region, because he is now under diciplinary action for the unjust killing of his NPA comrades during the 1988 "Operation Missing Link."

Government, NDF Start Talks 'Outside' Country

HK1909092791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Members of the government and the National Democratic Front [NDF] have started initial peace talks outside the country in order to draft the effective steps for reopening the peace talks related to ending the insurgency problem in the Philippines. In these negotiations the NDF submitted a list of negotiators who will be talking to the government representatives. Included in the meeting were House Defense Committee chairman, Congressman Jose Apeng Yap, Philippine National Police [PNP] intelligence chief Major General Gerardo Flores, and Colonel Rodolfo Delfin of the PNP Intelligence and Security Command.

Meanwhile, the NDF side was represented by Father Luis Jalandoni and a spokesman, identified only as Byron, who both came from the Netherlands. It was also known that others included in the meeting were human rights lawyer Romy Capulong and Honario Boy Morales.

According to a reliable source it is possible that there might be more new talks on Monday in order to fully draft the necessary steps for the peace talks. In relation to this, PNP spokesperson Reynaldo Wycoco said that there had already been a dialogue between the two sides but he did not confirm the meeting was in Hong Kong.

Rebel Bombs Said Discovered in Quezon Barangay

HK1909092291 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 19 Sep 91

[By Benjie de Galacia of DZRH unit No. 20]

[Text] Various homemade bombs used by the New People's Army to blow up bridges were discovered early this morning in a barangay in Mauban, Quezon.

According to the report of Captain Tucag, the homemade bombs were to be used by the rebels to blow up a bridge between Luciana, Laguna and Lucban, Quezon.

Fernan Considers Parties for Presidential Bid

HK1909073791 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 19 Sep 91 p 24

[By Cerwin T. Eviota]

[Text] Cebu City—Supreme Court Chief Justice Marcelo D. Fernan said last week it will either be the Liberal Party (LP) or the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino [Struggle of Filipino Democrats] (LDP) for him when he decides to run for the presidency next year.

Fernan was in Cebu to inaugurate the new P [Pesos] 60 million Palace of Justice inside the Cebu provincial capitol complex and to grace Cebu's celebration of President Sergio Osmena Sr.'s 113th birthday.

"In due time, a decision has to be made. The longer you wait, it might not be wise to do so," local dailies here quoted Fernan as saying in published reports last Tuesday about his reported candidacy.

Media circles had been criticizing the Cebuano chief justice for his wait-and-see attitude regarding his political plans.

But Fernan explained he needs enough time to weigh things as "it will be one of the most difficult decisions in my life, next ony to getting married."

The chief justice, in his interaction with city mayors during their convention here last month, cited the need for a presidential aspirant to have a major party to back him in his quest for the highest political office. He also said he was carefully studying the machineries of political parties whose leaders have reportedly offered him to be their standard bearer in 1992.

Interviewed by reporters, Fernan said the choices had been narrowed down to the LP, where he had been an inactive member since he joined the judiciary, and the LDP, the ruling party.

He also revealed that "some friends" are preparing the necessary arrangements for his presidential bid. But, an INQUIRER source said, several LP members led by Sen. Orlando S. Mercado and some prominent businessmen and church leaders are preparing the groundwork for Fernan's candidacy.

It was also reported that Fernan was toying with the idea of entering the nomination race in the LDP which its contenders, Speaker Ramon V. Mitra Jr. and former Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos, may eventually break apart. But the key factor, it added, will be the endorsement of President Aquino.

Meanwhile, Fernan confirmed reports that Cebu Gov. Emilio Osmena Jr. had offered him the funding arrangements he made with big-time Makait-based businessmen for his own candidacy for president.

Osmena earlier said he will withdraw from the presidential race if Fernan decides to run next year and will, instead, work for the latter's campaign.

Comelec Suspends Poll Preparations, Awaits Laws

HK1809061391 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 18 Sep 91 pp 1, 21

[By E. T. Suarez]

[Text] The Commission on Elections (Comelec) suspended yesterday the redistricting of provinces, cities, and municipalities and other poll preparations after Congress failed to pass a new election law before its Sept. 16 recess and after the House of Representatives turned down the recommendation of the poll body that provincial board members and councilors be elected by district to reduce the number of positions to be voted for.

The Comelec, which is scheduled to give final instructions today to its 1,800 municipal and city election registrars on how to go about the redistricting process, advised the election registrars to wait for new instructions before taking any action on the redistricting plan.

"Some poll preparations that could be affected by the provisions of the election law that may be passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives have to be stopped to prevent wastage of time and public funds," Comelec officials said.

But they said they are not exactly abandoning the redistricting program the Comelec has prepared and ready to implement as the Senate may insist on electing the provincial board members and councilors by district and the House may finally accede to the proposal during the meeting of the bicameral conference committee.

Commissioner Alfredo E. Abueg Jr., chairman of the Comelec first division, said the House rejected the poll body's recommendation to elect the provincial board members and city and municipal councilors by district, based on the argument of Rep. Ronaldo Zamora (LDP [Struggle of Filipino Democrats], Mandaluyong-San

Juan) that redistricting of electoral territories is impractical and unrealistic with only eight months left before the May 11, 1992 polls.

Zamora said such a system would have to take at least three years. This will be embodied in a bill the House will take up for subsequent elections when it reconvenes on Sept. 30, he said.

Abueg said had the Comelec recommendation been approved by the House and subsequently inserted in a new election law, the maximum number of positions to be written by a voter will be fixed at 38 instead of 51.

He said that in the coming elections for national and local officials, only the voters from Manila and Quezon City will be able to elect their councilors by district as this is provided for in their respective charters.

"We are happy that the other recommendations of the Comelec have been approved by the House such as the raising of the per diem of the public school teachers who will be tapped for poll duties from P [Philippine pesos] 200 to P400 on election day and to firm up the power of the Comelec to preserve the integrity of the voters registration records by giving it the authority to annul motu proprio [by one's own impulse] any book of voters prepared under fraudulent or highly irregular circumstances," he said.

The Comelec expressed the hope that when Congress reconvenes on Sept. 30, the new election measure will be given priority by both House so the preparations for the first synchronized elections in the country will not be jeopardized.

According to Sen. Jose Lina Jr., chairman of the Senate committee on constitutional amendments and electoral reforms, it may only take the Senate four days after it reconvenes to come out with a new election measure.

Senator Tanada Formally Joins Liberal Party

HK1709082991 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0500 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Text] Senator Wigberto Tanada was formally sworn in as a new member of the Liberal Party [LP] in a simple ceremony held in Club Pilipino in San Juan, Metro Manila. The affilation of Tanada to the Liberal Party was a compensation for the loss of Senator Ernesto Herrera from the party who resigned from the LP last week because of differences in opinion between him and Salonga on the issue of the military bases. The Philippine Broadcast Service news found out that Salonga had been courting Tanada to join his party and he offered him the opportunity to be among the 24 candidates in the senatorial race of the party in the coming 1992 elections. Even though it was a long time ago that Tanada decided to join the LP he did not yet reveal his intentions because he wanted to announce it after the Senate resolved the issue on the military bases. Both Salonga and Tanada are united in wanting to dismantle the military facilities of the United States in the Philippines. The other senators that are members of the Liberal Party are Teofisto Guingona, Orlando Mercado, Victor Ziga, and Rene Saguisag who is the nephew of Salonga.

Thailand

Suchinda Says SRV Potential Security Threat

BK1909015591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Sep 91 p 1

[Text] Vietnam's offensive capability remains a potential threat to Thailand and it is necessary for Thailand to build up its defence, Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun told the BBC in London.

In a recent interview with the BBC during his visit to the United Kingdom, Gen Suchinda said that with the exception of Vietnam, all the other neighbouring countries have as much as or less military capablity than Thailand.

Vietnam, he said, has offensive capability because it has a huge stockpile of armaments. Moreover, he added that Vietnam has not shown any indications of cutting back on its arms.

The army chief maintained that Thailand's procurement of arms represented preparation "at a certain level" to meet with an emergency.

"If the military is not combat-ready, what will happen? This is our duty," he said.

Gen Suchinda noted that there is a misunderstanding that the Thai military is seeking an increased defence budget while the world is moving towards peace.

He explained that, in fact, each of the three armed forces was given 20-30 percent of the budget requested annually.

This, he said, has made the armed forces unable to fulfil their defence programmes.

The army chief further complained that several people did not understand the military's needs for new armaments.

He maintained that the military had not sought an additional budget from the Government to acquire more hardware. The procurement projects had sealrier been approved by the previous government, he said.

Khukrit Criticizes Chawalit's Actions

BK1809134891 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 17 Sep 91 p 5

["Soi Suanphlu" Column by M.R. Khukrit Pramot]

[Summary] Chawalit Yongchaiyut served in the army for a long time and attained the highest military post before resigning to enter politics. Nobody could fault his action.

"But I think Chawalit joined the political arena a little too quickly and therefore probably has not fully learned the etiquette and manners that politicians should follow. For this reason, he committed two wrong acts of late."

In one of his frequent speaking engagements—I cannot remember where or when—"Chawalit made a speech that I feel was wrong as far as etiquette in the democratic political system is concerned. That is, he made references to the king and queen. Because he spoke out of sincere loyalty for their majesties, he could not really be prosecuted for it.

"The 16 September issue of the daily NAEO NA reported on an interview with Chawalit, who said: 'The core of the party's policy is to follow in the direction of the king to create prosperity for the people throughout the country.'

"This type of remark is heard often, and upon hearing it one may not think there is anything wrong with it. But further scrutiny of the remark regarding its implication on the democratic political system will show that it is quite wrong. As a politician, Chawalit should not have made references to the king.

"This is because in the democratic system the king's actions cannot be politically wrong. A political party cannot claim to have adopted the king's policy. When a party claims that some of the king's wishes are the core of its policy, if after implementation the policy turns out to be ineffective, no matter how slight, the king would have a responsibility for the ineffectiveness because the party's leader already claimed that the policy followed the king's wishes. This is a damaging matter that Chawalit should never have committed. It would be well for Chawalit's numerous advisers to counsel him about the inappropriateness of such remarks."

A similar situation occurred in Japan where a Japanese cabinet minister quoted to the press the emperor's remarks to him about agriculture. Opposition MP's brought the issue up in the Diet, and the offending minister admitted that he was wrong and resigned.

I have no doubt about Chawalit's and his wife's loyalty to their majesties the king and queen. "Still, I regard it inappropriate for Chawalit to make political references to the king, the only reason being that in the democratic political system everyone tries never to make any reference to the king."

"Another issue that I dislike concerns Chawalit's disclosure for political reasons to the press about the understandings reached or comments made among senior Thai military officers. It is absolutely unproductive to talk about the involvement of senior military officers or the military establishment in politics.

"What Suchinda may have pledged to Chawalit is Suchinda's business and should not be divulged to the press because it could be unfair to Suchinda, who was purported to have made the pledge. It is unfair to Chawalit as well. What if Suchinda denies making the pledge? Whoever the people choose to believe, this will not benefit the Army or the generals in any way. Anywhere in the world, military officers should avoid political involvement. Chawalit's remarks lead people to think that military officers, particularly Thai officers, are involved in politics, which causes people to fear political activities because such activities are engaged in by soldiers who possess arms. With the people having this idea, the political system in Thailand would be difficult to advance. The fact is that at present the military establishment is demonstrating that it is giving full support to the democratic system.

"In any event, honesty is the major quality to consider in a friend or in a person who will assume an important post. A reliable friend told Chawalit that he would accept the post of prime minister if it were offered. Chawalit reiterated that this friend had told him that he would never accept the post of premier. The question that arises now is: Is it appropriate for Chawalit to say things that indicates that his friend is unreliable? [paragraph as published]

"If we are unbiased, who should we choose as a friend between Suchinda, who once told Chawalit that he would never accept the premiership, and Chawalit, who claimed that Suchinda had made that statement but who could now become premier?" [paragraph as published]

Military Said Dissatisfied With Government

BK1909013991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Sep 91 p B2

[Text] Air Force chief Kaset Rotchananin said yesterday the relationship between the National Peacekeeping Council [NPKC], and the caretaker government remained normal though the military was not fully satisfied with the latter's performance.

"I can't say we are happy (with the government's work) but we have seen the administration carry out certain policies we proposed," ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Kaset said.

Speculation about conflicts between the caretaker government and the military junta has been rife. It was fuelled last week when Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, former military chief and leader of the New Aspiration Party, called for an overhaul of the military-supervised interim administrative system.

"We still work together," said Kaset. "When we think something should be done, we tell the government and monitor its work."

While saying that the caretaker government's performance was not perfect, Kaset noted that the provisional administration had to compete against time.

"There have been urgent problems," he said.

Asked sto evaluate the government's performance, Kaset said: "We can't make any conclusion yet because the work is still incomplete."

He reiterated that the NPKC wanted a general election to be held as soon as possible.

"We will have an election date fixed in November at the latest. The election should take place before the end of March," he said.

Kaset played down remarks that he was emerging as a "third power pole", after Army Commander in Chief Suchinda Khraprayun and Gen Chawalit.

"I don't know about the pole stuff. I'm working to serve only one thing—my country," he said.

Kaset has been a target of political criticism, particularly recently when the air force's huge arms-purchase plans were publicized.

Kaset has said he would be willing to become prime minister if offered the post. The statement drew contempt from the New Aspiration Party's secretary general, Prasong Sunsiri, who said anybody wanting to be premier must "wash his face and brush his teeth before leaving home".

Army Chief Denies Comments on Premiership

BK1909071391 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] In the VIP Room at Bangkok international airport this morning, General Suchinda Khraprayun, Army commander and vice chairman of the National Peacekeeping Council [NPKC] answered reporters' questions upon his return from a trip to observe military affairs in European countries from 9-14 September.

Asked about the results of his visit to various countries, he said the trips proceeded well without any problems.

On reports that the Army commander told the BBC in an interview that he was ready to accept the post of prime minister if forced by the situation, he replied that, in fact, he did not say that. He said that was just an interpretation. The Army commander disclosed that he only said he would not refuse to serve the country.

Burmese Students Protest at Embassy in Bangkok

BK1909014991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Sep 91 p 6

[Text] About 30 students and human rights activists rallied outside the Burmese Embassy on Sathon Nua Road yesterday to protest the Thai Government's treatment of Burmese asylum-seekers.

The protest came on the third anniversary of the military coup that brought the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) under Gen Saw Maung to power in Rangoon after crushing a nationwide student-led democracy movement.

The activists and students protested at what they viewed as the Thai Government's tacit support of the oppressive military regime, notably by repatriating Burmese students seeking asylum in Thailand.

The protesters accused the Thai Government of deporting 62 Burmese dissident students between April and June this year. Most of the deported students had been arrested by the Burmese military.

In a leaflet distributed by the protesters, the Thai Government was accused of being as oppressive as the SLORC.

About 50 Burmese students are being detained at the Immigration Division, 49 in Bang Khen Prison, 40 in Lat Yao Prison and many others at various police stations.

A Burmese student identified as Maung Myint Teng was shot dead by police on July 31 and a Burmese woman was raped by a Thai official in Kanchanaburi's Sangkhla Buri District on July 13 this year, the protesters said.

The protesters asked the Thai Government and authorities concerned to end the policy of arresting and deporting Burmese asylum-seekers and to treat them on humanitarian grounds.

They also demanded the Government take action against the authorities that shot Muang Myint Teng and investigate the rape allegation.

Indonesia Responds Positively to Asian Trade

BK1709021191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 17 Sep 91 p B1

[Text] Indonesia, the first ASEAN country to be sounded out by a Thai special mission on the so-called Anan Initiative on an ASEAN Free Trade Area, has agreed in principle with the proposal, but believes the 10-year term to implement the scheme is too short.

Meanwhile, a senior American embassy official in Bangkok said the United States supported ASEAN's attempt to form the free trade zone as long as it did not result in increased trade barriers for countries outside the group.

John Medeiros, American economic counsellor, said Washington welcomed the move and did not foresee any threat to Thai-US economic relations arising from the market integration scheme. However, the sectoral approach that ASEAN would use to free trade in particular product groups might affect exports from the United States if they are strategic products of American industries such as electronics.

Under the proposal, existing trade barriers between ASEAN member countries will be removed to improve the flow of goods and capital. Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun has reiterated that the proposed free trade area would not be a closed trading bloc.

He said the move would strengthen ASEAN's collective economy and stimulate foreign investment as the intra-ASEAN market expands as a result of the lifting of trade restrictions.

Phanat Simasathian, permanent secretary of the Finance Ministry and one of the special envoys, said yesterday that Indonesia had accepted Thailand's proposal and recommended that fertilizer, pulp and cement be the first sectors to be liberalized.

Indonesia, which is developing its light, labour-intensive and export-oriented industries, has suggested that these products be given priority in the scheme. However, it wanted to extend the deadline to achieve a fully-integrated free trade zone as proposed by Thailand, saying that 10 years would be too short a period.

Finance Minister Suthi Singsane, the leader of the mission will today leave for Brunei, Malaysia and Singapore to sound out their opinions on the proposal as part of his ASEAN tour to sell the Thai proposal. On Sept 27, the mission will go to the Philippines for the last leg of the mission.

Members of the mission include the permanent secretaries of the Commerce, Foreign and Industry ministries, plus Dr Narongchai Akkharaseni, a private member of the working group on the proposal.

Phanat added that negotiations at this stage have focused on appropriate steps to be taken to liberalize trade in identified sectors. He said the opinions of the six ASEAN member countries have to be sought before proceeding in detail.

For the three product groups that Indonesia proposed, Phanat said Thai industries would be adequately mature and prepared to accommodate the liberalization in the next 10 years. Currently, fertilizer is free from import tax and the government has a plan to free up cement production and imports, Panat added.

Under the scheme, member countries will have to gradually reduce their tariffs on designated products originating from ASEAN to zero to increase the flow of goods from one country to another. Similar products from other countries would not benefit from the tax privileges.

Japan Grants Aid for Green Belt in Northeast

BK1909081391 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Japan offers a grant aid to Thailand aimed at turning the northeast into a green belt area.

Thailand will receive a Japanese grant aid of 1,580 billion yen, or 290 million baht, for use in the establishment of four large plant propagation centers in northeastern Thailand.

The exchange of notes for the grant aid will take place this morning at 10.00 a.m. at the Embassy of Japan in Bangkok.

Representing Thailand at the ceremony will be Director General of the Department of Technical and Economic Cooperation Wanchai Sirirat, while the Japanese side will be represented by Japanese Ambassador to Thailand H. E. Mr. Hisakiko Okazaki.

The four plant propagation centers will serve as venues to produce and distribute seedlings and saplings of good quality for demonstration at model community forests. They expect that the setting up of the centers will help support the Thai Government's reforestation programs in northeastern provinces.

Moreover, the project will also contribute to the mitigation of natural disasters and the improvement in the quality of life of the local people in the northeast.

Vietnam

Reportage Covers Thai, SRV Meetings in Hanoi

Ministers Hold News Conference

BK1809124991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Report on joint news conference by Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam and Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin held in Hanoi on 18 September—portion recorded]

[Text] Dear friends, this afternoon, 18 September, SRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam and Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin held a joint news conference on the official visit to Vietnam by the Thai foreign minister. A large group of reporters at home and abroad attended the news conference.

First, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam briefed reporters on the results of the visit to Vietnam by Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin. Nguyen Manh Cam said:

[Begin recording] Dear friends and comrades, first of all I would like to say that thanks to the visit to Vietnam by his excellency the Thai foreign minister, I have had the chance to meet a large number of friends and comrades. As you all know, his excellency the Thai foreign minister is paying an official visit to Vietnam at the invitation of the Vietnamese Government. This visit is of great significance because it helps to restore trust between the two sides and manifests encouraging developments in Vietnam-Thailand relations achieved during the past several years. Moreover, the situation in the region is developing favorably for the acceleration of cooperation between Vietnam and Thailand and other countries in the region. Today, I am very pleased to inform friends and comrades that the visit to Vietnam by his excellency the Thai foreign minister was crowned with a splendid success. I am convinced that this visit will help accelerate and develop cooperation between our two countries and contribute to consolidating peace, stability, and cooperation in the region. We have an identity of views that our two countries as well as other nations in the region wish for peace and stability to develop their countries. In developing their countries, each will contribute to the general development in the region and vice versa. Moreover, we have expressed mutual trust in the efforts to develop our countries, thus contributing to the success of our bilateral cooperation. I can say that the visit to Vietnam by the Thai foreign minister is a success and you friends and comrades may see this in the joint statement. I am convinced that the Vietnam-Thailand relations as well as the relations between Vietnam and other countries in the region will develop satisfactorily in the future. I would like to stress that this visit has also contributed to making good preparations for the visit to Thailand by the SRV Council of Ministers chairman at the invitation of the Thai Government. I am also convinced that with this success, his excellency the Thai foreign minister and his entourage will have a good impression during their visit to our nation. [end recording]

Afterward, Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin made a statement thanking the Vietnamese Government and people for extending a warm welcome to him and his entourage. He further said: The objectives of my visit to Vietnam are aimed at, first of all, eliminating misunderstandings between the two countries and expanding bilateral cooperation in the future. We are taking measures to restore our mutual trust and we have achieved this goal. The second objective is to prepare for the visit to Thailand by the Vietnamese prime minister in the near future. The third objective is to create favorable conditions for future economic cooperation between Thailand and Vietnam. We are of the opinion that we can cooperate in many fields. I am convinced that you reporters will agree with me that the developed relations between Thailand and Vietnam will contribute to strengthening peace, stability, and prosperity not only for the Vietnamese and Thai people, but also for the entire Southeast Asian region.

With these objectives in mind and just as his excellency the Vietnamese foreign minister said that such achievements resulted from regional and international changes, we consider this trip very important. In the time ahead, there will be many other exchange visits between our two countries. We expect much in his excellency the Vietnamese prime minister's visit to Thailand. We hope that this visit will take place very early, and I believe that the visit will open up cooperation between our two countries. We think that what has been discussed and agreed upon here has already been manifested in the joint communique. I only want to recall the two points that we just concluded: One point is the accord on a joint economic committee of the two countries which was just signed by two vice ministers. The second point is that we already initialed the draft agreement on the protection and development of investment. We have agreed upon cooperation in assessment between the two countries. We believe that another area of cooperation which would benefit both sides is cooperation in energy. We have seen much possibility of creating close cooperation between Thailand and Vietnam.

Dear friends: Earlier, Minister Nguyen Manh Cam and Minister Asa Sarasin answered many questions from local and international journalists.

Answering a question from a NHAN DAN reporter on whether there is any obstacle to bilateral cooperation, Minister Asa Sarasin said: Through discussion with the Vietnamese foreign minister, neither side sees any problem. He asserted that Vietnam and Thailand agreed to take many measures to build trust and together discussed bilateral relations in the future. Both sides maintained that both countries have much potential for cooperation. Minister Asa Sarasin also expressed his pleasure over the fact that Vietnam will participate in the agreement of friendship and cooperation of ASEAN. This is very important.

Answering a question about fishermen of both countries, the Thai foreign minister emphasized Vietnam's good attitude toward the release of 244 Thai fishermen and conversely he said Thailand would also free 157 Vietnam fishermen being detained in Thailand.

On the establishment of a Thai consulate general in South Vietnam as well as the establishment of a Vietnamese consulate general in Thailand, both ministers disclosed that both sides would consider the issue positively based on reciprocation and mutual benefit.

Replying to a question from a Soviet reporter about the impact of the situation in the Soviet Union on Vietnam and Thailand, both Ministers Nguyen Manh Cam and Asa Sarasin expressed the desire that the situation in the Soviet Union would promptly stabilize. Vietnam always maintains its inherent relationship with the Soviet Union and desires that this relationship develop as the situation permits.

Answering a question from the Vietnam television reporter about the impact of the U.S. embargo policy on Vietnam-Thailand relations, the Thai foreign minister said that Vietnam-U.S. relations would be a bilateral agreement of the two countries. He stressed that Vietnam's prosperity is also Thailand's prosperity and, as a result, Thailand would do its utmost for bilateral cooperation.

On the situation in Cambodia, Minister Nguyen Manh Cam disclosed that both ministers highly appraised the results of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia in Phatthaya and stated that these are important steps of progress in the process of seeking a political solution to the Cambodian issue. Both ministers also highly appraised the role of Vietnam and Thailand in striving to make their contributions to the settlement of the Cambodian issue. Both sides also asserted that the Cambodian issue must be settled by the Cambodian people themselves.

The BANGKOK POST correspondent asked about the Sino-Vietnamese relations and the upcoming visit of Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet to Thailand. Minister Nguyen Manh Cam said: The Thai foreign minister stated that he fully supports the process of normalizing Sino-Vietnamese relations. This will benefit not only the two countries but also is in the interest of regional peace, stability, and cooperation. This will not affect the relations of China and Vietnam with other countries. Therefore, he believed that the process of normalizing Sino-Vietnamese relations would receive the sympathy and support of public opinion and friends.

Answering a question from the Thai daily, THE NATION, Minister Nguyen Manh Cam asserted that the upcoming visit to Thailand by Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet at the invitation of the Thai prime minister would be an important event that opens a new step in the development of bilateral relations.

Joint Communique Issued

BK1809161591 Hanoi VNA in English 1430 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sep. 18—A joint communique was issued here today on the official visit to Vietnam by Mr. Asa Sarasin, minister of foreign affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand at the invitation of Mr. Nguyen Manh Cam, minister of foreign affaires of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The communique noted that at the official talks held between the two foreign ministers the Vietnamese side welcomed the visit by H.E. Mr. Asa Sarasin as it would help to advance further the on-going progress in Thai-Vietnamese relations and set the stage for expanded cooperation between the two countries into the future. Both sides reiterated the view that, with the favourable changes in the international and regional situation, the opportunity was at hand for the two countries to forge closer ties of friendship, cooperation and good-neighbourlines which would not only meet the aspirations and interests of their peoples but also benefit the cause of peace, stability and prosperity for all of Southeast Asia.

The two sides informed each other about the situation in their respective countries and exchanged views on ways and means of strengthening the relations between the two countries, as well as on regional and international issues of mutual interest.

The two sides were encouraged by the positive developments in the regional situation which holds out the promise of a new era of peaceful and cooperative relations among all the nations of Southeast Asia. The Thai side expressed the desire to see Vietnam's greater participation in the promotion of regional cooperation. As an initial step in this direction, the Thai side welcomed Vietnam's intention to accede to the 1976 Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, to which all the ASEAN countries are signatories and which is open to accession by all other countries in Southeast Asia.

The two sides noted with satisfaction that the search for a comprehemsive political solution to the Cambodian question within the P-5 framework document was now moving towards the final stage. The two sides welcomed the important agreements reached at the recent meetings of the Supreme National Council (SNC) in Phatthaya and Beijing under the presidency of his royal highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and expressed their hope that the remaining issues would be settled as soon as possible in order that the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PICC) could be reconvened to adopt and sign the final peace agreement on a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian question by the end of October 1991. The two sides were confident that this would lead to the emergence of a peaceful, neutral and independent Cambodia friendly to all countries, including the neighbouring countries, thereby contributing to durable peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

The two sides welcomed and were encouraged by the continuing progress being made in the bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries as reflected in the increased contacts at various levels, in both governmental and private sectors, and in the rapidly growing trade volume and economic cooperation. Both sides were also of the view that every effort should be made to build up a climate of greater mutual confidence and trust which would give added impetus to the further development of friendly and cooperative ties between Thailand and Vietnam. Towards this end, both sides agreed to promote more frequent contacts and closer ties between the leadership of the two countries. More cultural exchanges and people-to-people contacts should also be encouraged as means of enhancing mutual understanding and goodwill between the two countries.

In this regard, the Thai foreign minister informed his Vietnamese counterpart of the Thai Government's intention to find a lasting solution to the long-standing issue of Vietnamese nationals who fled to Thailand during the first Indochina war by considering granting Thai citizenship to these vietamese according to their wish, as well as further relaxing any other existing restrictions, provided that upon the acquisition of Thai citizenship, they would lose their Vietnamese citizenship in accordance with the respective countries' laws. The Vietnamese law did not recognize dual citizenship and it was the policy of the Vietnamese Government that these long-term Vietnamese residents in Thailand would become an integral part of Thai society and law-abiding citizens of Thailand.

As a further confidence-building measure, the two sides agreed to release a number of Thai and Vietnamese fishermen detained in their respective countries, the details and modalities of which would be further discussed as soon as possible in the spirit of goodwill, friendship and mutual cooperation, taking into account each other's internal laws and international practices.

The two ministers held that there should be regular exchanges between the military leadership of the two countries and also welcomed the exchange of military attaches to each other's capital as soon as possible.

The two sides shared the view that there exist great potentials for cooperation between the two countries which have yet to be tapped and expressed their determinatwon to do their utmost to further enhance the multi-faceted relations, particularly in the fields of trade, investment and tourism. To set the framework for the expansion of economic cooperation between the two countries, the two sides agreed to sign the agreement on the establishment of a joint commission on econmic cooperation and to initial the agreement on investment promotion and protection. The two sides agreed to conduct further negotiations on the agreement on the avoidance of double taxation and to exchange views on the promotion of cooperation in the fields of fisheries, gems and natural gas.

The two sides recognized the desirability of effecting a delimitation of the maritime boundaries between the two countries and agreed to hold talks as soon as possible for this purpose. The Vietnamese side welcomed the Thai Government's offer to extend technical asistance to Vietnam. In this regard, a team of experts from Thailand will visit Vietnam to discuss how the assistance could be utilized to meet the development needs of Vietnam.

The Thai side proposed the setting up of its consulate-general in Ho Chi Minh City. The Vietnamese sisde agreed to give positive consideration to the request and would propose the site of its consulate-general in Thailand for consideration on the basis of reciprocity.

Mr. Asa Sarasin took the opportunity to confirm the invitation of H.E. Mr. Anan Panyarachun, prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand for Mr. Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, to pay an official visit to Thailand, the date of which will be further agreed upon.

The two sides agreed to convene the first joint commission at the level of deputy minister in Thailand before the forthcoming visit of the chairman of the Council of Ministers of Vietnam.

Both sides welcomed the successful outcome of the visit to Vietnam by Mr. Asa Sarasin, minister of foreign affairs of Thailand. Mr. Asa Sarasin expressed his deep appreciation for the very warm welcome and gracious hospitality extended to him and his party by the leaders and people of Vietnam. Mr. Asa Sarasin invited H.E. Mr. Nguyen Manh Cam to pay an official misit to Thailand. Mr. Nguyen Manh Cam expressed his thanks and accepted the invitation with pleasure. The date of the visit would be agreed upon through the diplomatic channel.

Asa Claims 'Total Success'

BK1909021991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Sep 91 p 1

[Text] Hanoi—Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin yesterday claimed total success in "dispelling past misunderstandings and paving the way for confidence-building measures" for a "new era in Thai-Vietnamese relations" during his visit here which ended yesterday.

Mr Asa, before leaving the capital for Ho Chi Minh City, said the visit by Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet to Thailand next month for a summit meeting with Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun now looked set to bring about a series of agreements for a broad range of economic cooperation on such things as energy and the fisheries industry.

Mr Asa said the "regional and international situation made it possible for Thailand and Vietnam to get together".

Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam also said the two countries had found common ground and the growing "mutual trust" would bring about a better relationship and closer cooperation.

"I am fully confident the development of relations and friendship between Thailand and Vietnam, and the two of us with others, will progress very well," he said.

A key objective of Mr Asa's visit here is to prepare for Mr Kiet's trip to Thailand by ensuring issues have progressed to a point where the two leaders can achieve maximum results during their summit.

The summit is expected some time after the World Bank/IMF meeting.

"We look forward to the Prime Minister's visit very soon, and I am confident this will pave the way for concrete cooperation between us," Mr Asa said.

Thailand is keen to reach an umbrella agreement on joint fishing ventures and to sign a memorandum of understanding on energy cooperation with Vietnam at the summit.

The two foreign ministers yesterday initialled a draft agreement for investment promotion and protection which is also expected to be signed during the summit.

The two ministers also formalised the establishment of a Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation whose first meeting will take place before Mr Kiet's visit.

The Thai and Vietnamese foreign ministers "held that there should be regular exchanges beween the military leadership of the two countries and also welcomed the exchange of military attaches to each other's capital as soson as possible" according to a joint comunique.

Mr Asa told Mr Kiet "Thailand valued the relationship with Vietnam highly".

Mr Asa's "courtesy call" on Mr Kiet developed into a one-hour discussion during which he called for Vietnam to enter into energy and fisheries cooperation agreements based on the principle of "mutual benefits".

Mr Kiet, the key architect of reform in his country, said both Thailand and Vietnam should "find ways to resolve remaining problems which will lead to better understanding".

"We must look to the future...in the long run, we see a lot of potential. "The economic cooperation of Thailand can be wide- ranging and is promising," he told Mr Asa.

Mr Asa said there were no obstacles blocking economic cooperation, pointing to the fact his cousrtesy call had become an impromptu session which he found "very constructive".

Thailand offered to lend technical assistance to Vietnam and a team of experts will soon pay a visit to discuss how the assistance can best meet Vietnam's developmental needs.

Meanwhile, a Foreign Ministry source in Bangkok said yesterday the Government would lift its ban on the export of strategic goods to boost its trade with Vietnam following talks here with Vietnamese Trade and Tourism Minister Le Van Triet.

During his meetings with Foreign Ministry officials and Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on, Mr Triet proposed that Thailand lift its decade-long ban on the exports of strategic items.

Fishermen To Be Released

BK1909025791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Sep 91 p 3

[Text] Hanoi—Thailand and Vietnam have agreed to a joint "goodwill amnesty" in which 501 Thai and Vietnamese "detainees in fishery disputes" will be released.

Under the agreement announced by Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin here yesterday, Thailand will free 157 Vietnamese whom the Thai authorities labelled as "pirates" while Vietnam will release 344 Thai fishermen jailed in Kien Giang Province of southern Vietnam.

According to official figures, there are 846 Thai fishermen currently jailed in Vietnam for violating that country's territorial waters—344 are in Kien Giang, while the remainder are in Minh Hai, Vung Tau and Hau Giang.

While calling on Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet yesterday, Mr Asa told the Vietnamese leader that Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun asked if Vietnam would consider releasing the 846 Thais.

"Prime Minister Anan asked you to consider this request and if this takes place before your excellency's visit to Thailand then it would be much appreciated," Foreign Minister Asa said to the Vietnamese leader during their one-hour talk yesterday.

In response to Mr Asa's request, the Vietnamese Premier said the amnesty for Thai fishermen "came in response to the Thai Prime Minister's concerns."

At this stage, Vietnam could only agree to the release of the Thai detainees in Kien Giang, and further negotiations would have to be conducted to secure the release of the remainder who are held by the provincial authorities.

The specific number of those to be released was not mentioned in the joint communique of the two foreign ministers.

"As a further confidence building measure, the two sides agreed to release a number of Thai and Vietnamese fishermen detained in their respective countries, details and modalities of which would be further discussed as soon as possible in the spirit of goodwill, friendship and mutual cooperation," the communique said.

Premier Cool to Gas Proposal

BK1909034191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Sep 91 p 3

[Text] Vietnam appeared yesterday to have cooled to proposals to become a major supplier of natural gas to Thailand.

Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet told Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin here yesterday that Vietnam's main concerns were using its natural gas for domestic energy generation and for fertiliser production.

The Petroleum Authority of Thailand (PTT) had earlier proposed joint exploration for, and use of, Vietnam's natural gas as a way of sourcing supplies to feed Thailand's growing energy needs.

Mr Asa and Deputy Industry Minister Wira Susangkorakan yesterday tried to convince the Vietnamese leaders of the benefits to both countries stemming from the cooperation.

But Mr Vo Van Kiet made it clear Vietnam wanted to develop its own gas separation and fertiliser plants so it could meet the local demand of two million tons of fertiliser annually.

The Soviet Union was Vietnam's major source of fertiliser at concessionary prices until recently.

Vietnam "is willing to cooperate with Thailand and those others who are interested in a scheme that will enable onshore utilisation of offshore gas," said the Vietnamese Prime Minister.

"The urgent problem for us is how to bring offshore gas to the land, and we are pleased if Thailand wishes to cooperate with us in this aspect."

Mr Vo Van Kiet said the distance involved in the undertaking proposed by Vietnam was far less than transporting the gas to Thailand via pipeline across the Gulf of Thailand.

Mr Asa said Thailand has the experience to build such a pipeline, which the PTT estimates would cost about 20,000 million baht.

The Foreign Minister stressed the Thai proposal was based on mutual benefits.

"Burma approached us for similar energy cooperation, but we prefer to cooperate with Vietnam," he told Mr Vo Van Kiet.

The PTT is especially keen to develop the Big Bear field which is thought to have the capability to yield 300-500 million cubic feet of natural gas daily.

The PTT has also proposed the joint development of the "flare" being wasted at the White Tiger field where the daily yield is estimated at 75 million cubic feet.

Mr Vo Van Kiet said he realised the "flare" was being wasted, but this was because his country lacked the utilisation facilities.

Mr Asa expressed hope a memorandum of understanding on energy cooperation could be signed during Mr Vo Van Kiet's visit to Thailand next month.

National Assembly Group Arrives in Phnom Penh

BK1909085991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] On the morning of 16 September, the delegation of our National Assembly led by Comrade Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly and vice chairman of the Council of State, arrived in the capital of Phnom Penh to begin an official friendship visit to Cambodia at the invitation of Chea Sim, chairman of the State of Cambodia National Assembly.

The delegation includes Comrade Huynh Cuong, member of the Party Central Committee amd vice chairman of the National Assembly; Comrade Vu Mao, member of the Party Central Committee and the Council of State, director of the Office of the National Assembly and Council of State, and chairman of the Vietnam-Cambodia Friendship Association; Comrade Nguyen Hoa, acting chairman of the National Assembly Economic and Planning Committee; Comrade Tran Van Phac, vice chairman of the National Assembly Foreign Relations Committee; and Comrade Ha Thi Thu Suong, member of the National Assembly Committee for Youth, Teenagers, and Children.

Under the mellow sunshine of the land of Angkor, Pochentong International Airport today was splendidly decorated with banners and flowers. Welcoming the delegation at the airport with flowers and the national flags of the two countries were nearly 1,000 delegates representing people of all strata and mass organizations at the central level and in Phnom Penh; representatives of Vietnamese residents in Cambodia; and the leaders of the Cambodian National Assembly such as Chea Sim, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP] Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the National Assembly and the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense; Mat Ly, member of the Party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the National Assembly; Nu Beng, vice chairman of the National Assembly; Kham Len, vice chairman of the National Assembly; Chan Ven, secretary general of the Council of State; Sam Sundeun, member of the Party Central Committee and chairman of the Cambodia-Vietnam Friendship Association; and many ministers and deputy ministers.

Also on hand to receive the delegation were our country's ambassador, Ngo Dien and his wife; many cadres and personnel from our embassy, including the military attache; Vietnamese specialists and students currently working and studying in Cambodia; leaders of the Overseas Vietnamese Association; the representative of our country's general consulate in Battambang province; and many other countries' ambassadors and members of the diplomatic corps.

At 1145 [0445 GMT] sharp, the Vietnam Civil Aviation Corporation's private plane No. 134, carrying the delegation, landed at Pochentong Airport amid the chanting of slogans: Warmly welcome the official friendship of the delegation of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to Cambodia and long live the close fraternal solidarity between Cambodia and Vietnam.

Chairman Chea Sim and the other Cambodian leaders went up to the staircase of the plane to hug and kiss Chairman Le Quang Dao and his entourage while Cambodian girls presented bouquets of flowers to the chairman and distinguished guests. Then the national anthems of Vietnam and Cambodia were played along with the fluttering of the national flags of the two countries.

After that, amid the eloquent sound of martial music, Chairman Chea Sim escorted Chairman Le Quang Dao to review the guard of honor and meet those who were on hand to welcome him.

Lao Front Delegation Arrives for Visit

BK1909072191 Hanoi VNA in English 0629 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 19—A delegation of the Lao Front for National Construction arrived here Tuesday for a visit to Vietnam as guest of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee (VNFFCC).

The delegation, led by Mr. Maisouk Saisompheng, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the front, held talks on Wednesday with a delegation of the host organization led by Pham Van Kiet, vice chairman and secretary general of the VNFFCC.

During the talks, the two sides informed each other of the front's activities in their respective countries and discussed matters of mutual concerns in order to strengthen the friendship and solidarity between the two peoples and two fronts.

Lao ambassador to Vietnam Khamphet Phengmeuang was present on the occasion.

More Contracts With Foreign Airlines Signed

BK1909042491 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Vietnam Airline Corporation has awarded 22 contracts for transportation to foreign airlines. For this, flights have been organized in different forms.

Many regular connecting flights have been scheduled, such as flights from Hanoi or Ho Chi Minh city to Bangkok, Phnom Penh, Vientiane, Kuala Lumpur, and Manila and back. Booking offices have opened in many countries.

Army General on Military Doctrine

BK1809144191 Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN in Vietnamese Jul-Aug 91 pp 93-97

[Article by Lieutenant General Doan Chuong: "Let's Discuss Vietnamese Military Doctrine"]

[Text] Some people might think that it is rather haughty to raise the question of Vietnamese military doctrine. No, it is not! Theories do not come out of nowhere. They summarize realities and foretell the future in keeping with their inevitable law of evolution.

The military is a domain deeply impressed with national characteristics. Engels said: "National characteristics, historical traditions, and especially various standards of civilization create many differences and give rise to strong and weak aspects special to each army" (Footnote 1) (Engels—Selected Military Thesis, Book IV, QDND Publishing House, Hanoi, 1986, page 9)

Our national history of millenary civilization has created somewhat unique military traditions whose special features were generalized by our ancestors as follows: "Although we are weak, we still can resist a strong enemy. Even though we are outnumbered by huge enemy forces, we can always defeat them."

In today's time, under the party leadership, the Vietnamese revolution after all has to resolve two fundamental problems: One is how a small country can defeat a large country militarily to gain and preserve national independence. The other is that a small country should become economically strong (going from small- to large-scale production) to successfully build socialism.

In feudal times, our ancestors succeeded in solving the problem of a small country defeating a large one militarily, thus enabling our nation to survive and develop; however, we fumbled and stumbled when faced with the threat of imperialist aggression. Receiving and applying the new truth of the era in combination with action to bring national traditions into play, the Ho Chi Minh generation succesfully resolved the problem of a small country defeating a large one militarily during the time of imperialism and proletarian revolution to win over total independence and unify the country. It now continues to solve the problem of a small country that is growing up economically along the renovation line to build socialism. If ever the enemy should force our people to wage a war to defend the socialist country, we would certainly have to solve again the problem of a small country defeating a large one militarily.

So stated, it would not be too modest to say that there is actually a school of Vietnamese military or in other words, a Vietnamese military doctrine—either a school or doctrine to successfully solve the problem of a small country defeating a large one militarily. Speaking of a military doctrine, one usually attributes it to a certain state. Yet, it is not necessarily so limited. Commenting on the Gulf war, Fidel Castro remarked: "In places where the imperialists waged military adventures such as Grenada, Panama, and Iraq, we can see that Grenada killed itself because of division over the assassination of Bishop. Grenada was divided and destroyed; otherwise, this country, though small, would have been able to put up a strong resistance. In Panama, the people were not prepared to defend their country. Iraq was also in the same state. Although Iraq had a huge army and many tanks, it was not a nation prepared for combat, nor did it have a doctrine of people's warfare." (Footnote 2) (Cuba and the Gulf war, Tap Chi QPTD No. 5 1991, page 74) Considering the special meaning of the statement, the Vietnamese military doctrine can be said to exist, a school in the military academy to solve the problem of a small country defeating a large one militarily.

Reading a long excerpt from the book "The Noble Man" by A. Pazzi published in 1955 (in the book "Military Traditions of the Vietnamese Nation" of the general training department of the former Saigon puppet army which was translated by Hong Cuc and published in 1974) I found that this foreign author has sharply analyzed our nation.

After analyzing the historical course of our nation, A. Pazzi wrote:

"It can be said that the Viets are a self-reliant people armed with a comparatively high degree of indomitability. This spirit of indomitability has turned them from the smallest into the most heroic people.

"One will never fully appreciate that kind of strength and the loftiness of that kind of spirit if he has had only a glance at the normal daily life of the Viets without looking deep into their history.

"If one returns to the starting point to see the Viets when they staged their first uprising, using only rudimentary weapons such as wooden sticks and spears, he would find out more clearly how incredible their latent strength was. The most powerful enemies of the Viets failed to realize that fact! How could they know when the sense of indomitability of a nation is originated from that nation's thousand-years-old history, has been deeply absorbed into the innermost part of its people, and has helped build up the boundless pride of a people who have never allowed themselves to be humiliated and who have always associated themselves closely with their homeland and with their national heritage—a tragic but very heroic heritage? It was too late for the enemies of the Viets to realize this strength as they started learning of this only after they had suffered defeat. As far as the Viets are concerned, they saw their victory right from the moment they engaged in combat and even before that, no matter which enemies they were having to encounter. This is because the Viets know that behind them stood neither vacuum nor fade-away nor confused memories but rather a long-standing history of glorious efforts."

I am hereby excerpting the final paragraph [of Nguyen Luong Bich's book on Nguyen Trai's Fighting the Enemy for National Salvation] not for the purpose of seeking public acclaim, but for helping our people know what mankind is saying about them.

After studying our ancestors' military traditions throughout various dynasties, one can see many typical quotations which have been repeatedly cited, supplemented, developed, and gradually perfected. For instance:

—The entire country is of the same mind; the entire people fight the enemy.

—Use the few to fight the many; use the weak to defeat the strong.

—Peasants are stationary soldiers; they will be soldiers in wartime and civilians in peacetime.

After reading a few words of Nguyen Trai's "Famous Communique on Victory Over the Chinese Wu," one can immediately visualize his whole policy line and doctrine:

—"Raising their wooden sticks as a banner, peasants are gathered from every corner of the country.

—"Wine mixed with plain water, generals and soldiers are one, like fathers and sons.

—"Use the weak to defeat the strong; surprise attacks are recommended.

—"Use the few to defeat the many; frequent ambushes are needed."

Finally:

—"Use just cause to triumph over brutality

—"Use human-kindedness in place of tyranny." (Footnote 3) (Nguyen Luong Bich: Nguyen Trai's Fighting the Enemy for National Salvation; QDND Publishing House, 1974, page 641)

Today, after systematically studying Uncle Ho's military thoughts, the party's military lines, and our military art, one can see that many typical quotations about our ancestors' military tradition have been brought up to the epochal level thanks to our thorough understanding and application of Marxism-Leninism.

The party's military lines cover not only the party's military policies for certain periods of time but, more importantly, also the military doctrine of our party and state. When saying that our party's military lines deal with an all-people uprising, a people's war, an all-people national defense, and the people's armed forces, we are clearly referring to the special characteristics of the party's military lines. If we review major mistakes in implementing the military lines, we will see the most serious one: namely those conceptual mistakes such as belittling the role of a local people's war, failing to properly realize the importance of the "three categories of troops" and to uphold the party's concentrated and unified leadership, etc.

It can be said that our party's military line was chiefly based on Uncle Ho's military concept. When I wrote the book: "A Research on President Ho Chi Minh's Military Cause and Legacy" (footnote 4) (QDND Publishing House, 1989) to commemorate Uncle Ho's birthday centenary, I intended to provide a research study on the formation, development, and perfection of Uncle Ho's military concept. At that time, some of my colleagues suggested that Uncle Ho's revolutionary concept was very clear while his military concept was somewhat vague. I, however, asked myself whether Nguyen Trai's and Lenin's military concepts exist. I must say that they do exist. Speaking in a Vietnamese sense, Uncle's Ho military concept is a creative combination between Lenin's military concept and that of Nguyen Trai which dealt chiefly with issues related to military lines and theories. This concept is an important basis for formulating our party's military line and policy. Through my studies, I found out that Uncle Ho's military concept is that of our party as well as of Vietnam since the Ho Chi Minh era.

During the armed uprising, Uncle Ho and our party did not stop at the general principles of Marxism-Leninism, but advanced further toward the national uprising in the new era of a small nation fighting against a large imperialist country. This national uprising called for the collaboration of people throughout the country, the combination of guerilla warfare with the uprising, and the establishment of revolutionary bases to advance from various partial uprisings to a general uprising and so forth.

In the people's war, for instance, Uncle Ho and our party—stemming from the concept of a small nation fighting against a large imperialist country—called for the collaboration of people throughout the country to persistently fight against the enemies in a single-minded spirit while taking the people's armed forces as the core force, applying various combat forms and methods, striving to create a combined strength, and launching offensive attacks to repulse the enemies step by step and gradually destroy their organs, thus advancing toward completely defeating the enemies and so forth.

In building the people's armed forces, Uncle Ho and our party asserted the necessity to provide arms to people throughout the country while building the three categories of regular troops in conformity with requirements of the people's war. It is also necessary to enhance the army's political background and revolutionary ethics, while striving to consistently consolidate the combined strengths of the people's armed forces and so forth.

In the first analysis, Vietnamese military theory includes the following major characteristics: Concerning objective, it stresses the just cause for national salvation and defense; regarding forces, it stresses the all people's struggle taking the three catagories of troops as the main force; and concerning form and method, it emphasizes the tactic of using a small force to defeat a larger one. The Soviet military theory also upholds the just cause for national salvation and defense but not for the small to defeat the larger and as a result, their military organization and tactics are different. While Israeli military theory advocates that the small defeat the larger, its objective is unrighteous and as a result, its organization and method are also different.

Engels, in his 1855 book: "The European Armed Forces," wrote the following lines as if to teach us today:

"Different nations in the world are basically endowed with a relatively equal military quality, courage, and fighting impetus. Soldiers of nations are distinguished from one another by their characteristics rather than by their superiority. In the final analysis—under today's system of open existence and in a military point of view—only by making great efforts in consistently developing and improving the military domain, exploiting the state resources, and enhancing the military quality, can an army of a certain nation, in a specified period of time, be able to advance ahead of armies of other nations." (Footnote 5) (Engels—Selected Military Thesis, Book IV, QDND Publishing House, Hanoi 1986, page 11)

Now the time is ripe to have a scientific general review on the military tradition of our ancestors and on our military lines and art in order to formulate the Vietnamese military theory to serve as a compass for our military and national defense activities. The formulation of correct military lines and art will significantly ensure success for the cause of defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

Australia

Hawke Asks UN To Intervene in Yugoslavia

BK1909090191 Hong Kong AFP in English 0804 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Sydney, Sept 19 (AFP)—Australia has asked the United Nations to intervene in the Yugoslavian conflict, Prime Minister Bob Hawke said Thursday.

Hawke said he had pointed out in a letter to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar that despite the best efforts of European leaders to achieve peace, the U.N. must now consider taking a role.

Although historically it had never intervened in the affairs of a member country, he believed Yugoslavia no longer existed as a separate state, Hawke said in a statement. By using federal forces to attack Croatia, Yugoslavia was not complying with its own Constitution and the crisis now threatened the security of neighbouring countries, he added.

Hawke said [he] had spoken by phone Thursday to Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, who had identified with the Australian proposal.

Hong Kong Said Largest Source of Immigrants

BK1909065791 Hong Kong AFP in English 0641 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Text] Canberra, Sept 19 (AFP)—Hong Kong has replaced New Zealand as the biggest source of people settling in Australia after Britain, according to a report by the Bureau of Immigration Research (BIR) released Thursday.

The BIR's quarterly statistical Immigration Update found that in the first nine months of 1990-91, 10,686 migrants were born in Hong Kong—an increase of 4,807 on the same period in 1989-90 and forming 11.4 percent of the total intake.

The number of settlers from Hong Kong had accelerated over the past ten years rising from 1,299 in 1981-82.

Mark Lound, statistician at the BIR, said Hong Kong's reversion to Chinese rule in 1997 was probably prodding immigration from the British colony.

"A lot of skilled people are coming out," he told AFP [AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE].

British arrivals dropped by 1,913 to 15,937, or 17 percent of the total, but still remained the highest source.

Vietnam was third with an increase of 2,186 to 10,116, or 10.8 percent of the total intake for that period.

New Zealand, which has shown the biggest fall in settler arrivals, dropped to fourth position from 9,016 to 6,001, or 6.4 percent of the intake.

Lound said that the annual intake from New Zealand was always variable.

"It has jumped around over the years because of different economic conditions in both countries," he said.

China follows at 5.5 percent of the intake, then Malaysia and the Philippines both at five percent.

Settlers from Sri Lanka and India were also on the rise.

But the report shows that while the total number of settlers arriving was 93,705, up two per cent on 1989-90, the number of permanent departures increased by nearly 18 percent to 24,116.

Thus the net gain in settlers in Australia in the nine month period was down by three percent on the same period the previous year.

The report found also that the number of permanent departures by former settlers—people who arrived in Australia with the intention of staying—rose by 38 percent.

Vanuatu

New Premier Wants Ties With France Normalized

BK1709235891 Hong Kong AFP in English 2354 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Text] Port Vila, Sept 18 (AFP)—The new prime minister of Vanuatu, Donald Kalpokas, said he wants to "speed up the process of normalising relations with France" so the French can appoint an ambassador as soon as possible.

"France should not be treated differently from Great Britain, Australia or New Zealand and should have complete diplomatic representation," he told AFP [AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE].

France is currently represented in Vanuatu, which acceded to independence from the former Franco-British condominium of New Hebrides in 1980, only by a charge d'affaires.

"A lot of things could be done with France and perhaps also with New Caledonia, because it's a French territory," said Kalpokas, who became prime minister September 6 after parliament dumped veteran leader Walter Lini.

"Concerning economic and commercial development, Vanuatu wants to promote greater participation by the private sector and see more French coming to invest here."

Asked to explain Vanuatu's request that New Caledonia be admitted to the South Pacific Forum, Kalpokas said that "aside from political reasons, by virtue of the simple fact that it is in the Pacific, New Caledonia should be part of the Pacific community and should be able to participate" in discussions concerning the region.